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Letters on British Agriculture—IV.

LONDON, September 10, 1853.

L. TUCKER, Esq.—An important means by which the results of British agriculture are obtained, is the wise appropriation of lands to the purposes for which they are best suited.

It would save something in transportation and much time in traffic, if each farmer could produce bread-stuffs, horse-feed, beef, pork, butter, cheese and eggs enough for home consumption, and then sell the surplus. This would be the best way, provided that all lands were equally well adapted to all purposes. It requires sound discretion to determine when this rule shall be departed from. The wants of the family and the adaptations of the land are to be studied conjointly.

English farmers seek a better reason for raising a particular crop or series of crops, than that their fathers did. They require a better reason than that their families will need the produce. As their country is small, and the means of transportation ample, they find it better to exchange produce with each other, than to appropriate lands disadvantageously. What kind of husbandry—what crops and in what rotation, is best adapted to different soils, is a matter which they have studied thoroughly, and which is pretty generally settled. Practices peculiar to individuals, and sometimes to considerable sections of country, are, no doubt, in some cases, mere inheritances; as where hedges enough to exhaust a large per cent of the land are kept growing; or as where a farmer ekes out just enough of every thing to keep his own family clothed and fed, and then pays his rent out of some money left him by a maiden aunt. In some particular things, I am inclined to think that nearly the whole race of English farmers act from a sort of inherited prejudice; as in the use of plows nearly as long as our Oregon pine, and about heavy enough to load a stout team.

But as a general rule, their practice is founded on sound principles. They can show a reason. Especially is this the case in their appropriation of lands for particular purposes. In the Isle of Wight, and in the south of England, on the main coast, are extensive chalk hills. These, so far as I have seen them, are generally broad, continuous elevations, extending many miles in length, and seldom steep or abrupt, except where the action of the sea is undermining and breaking them down; as in the Isle of Wight. They are called "downs;" and, as you are probably aware, have given name to a favorite breed of sheep extensively grown in the southern counties, of which the name "black faces" would be more characteristic than that of "South Downs." The soil in these hills is generally thin, often not more than two or three inches in thickness; and it lies in a subsoil of chalk and flint stones. Consequently it is unfit for the plow, and is appropriated to the grazing of sheep. The soil is of a quick, active nature, producing a fine sweet grass, of which sheep are exceedingly fond, and on which they fatten admirably in the summer, and will live pretty well during the whole winter by being "helped out," as the people here say, by a little hay or a few turneps. In making a pedestrian tour, with an American friend, in the Isle of Wight, I passed along one of these downs from Brading to Arreton, some six miles. The vallies

on each side exhibited the most beautiful cultivation I ever saw. The reform of which I spoke in my last, had here done its work thoroughly. Clusters of trees here and there adorned the landscape; but none infested the wheat-fields. The hedges, except enough to divide the land into lots of forty, fifty, or sixty acres, had disappeared. The distance from the cultivated fields on the north to those on the south might have been two miles. On the rising ground between, were feeding thousands upon thousands of sheep and lambs, all South Downs, or a cross in which the features of the South Down were dominant, and so far as I could learn, all in the care of a single shepherd, whose cottage was central between Brading and Arreton, and was the only dwelling-house on a territory five or six miles in length and two or three in width. I then believed, what I had heard before, that the Isle of Wight sends immense quantities of the finest mutton to London. I do not mean to imply that sheep farming is confined to such downs. Almost all farmers in this country have sheep, more or less. In grain-growing districts sheep are employed to feed off the turnep crop, and thus prepare the ground for the crop that is to follow. But the downs are devoted almost entirely to the growing of mutton and wool; and it is undoubtedly the wisest disposition that could be made of them.

On the other hand, certain interval lands, as the valley of Aylesbury, are appropriated to the grazing of cattle. John Lee, LL. D., of Doctor's Commons, London, but the owner, and a part of the year the resident, of Hartwell House, in Buckinghamshire, invited me to visit him on his estate, in that county—said he knew something of farming, and that his men, some of them, knew more; and he would put me in the way of seeing some of the most sensible farmers in that part of the country. I visited him accordingly. He is one of those men, who, with a noble enthusiasm, are devoting their energies to the advancement of science. Had I been a very prominent, instead of a very obscure individual, I could hardly have been treated with more kindness and consideration than I was by Dr. and Mrs. Lee. Their house, the residence of a long line of worthy ancestors, built in the time of Elizabeth, the residence at one time of Louis 18th and his queen, and Charles 9th and suite, whose rooms were all pointed out to me, is situated in the midst of a park, not as large as some I have seen, but exceedingly beautiful, and appropriated, as most of the parks are, to grazing purposes. The house, or palace as it might almost be called, is very large; and, aside from the family apartments, is full, literally crammed, with libraries, scientific collections, philosophical instruments, &c., &c., collected for the advancement of science, or to facilitate its application to the useful purposes of life. After showing me the whole, and saying that I should now know the way over his house, and must stay and study his collections as long as I could afford the time—a rare opportunity indeed, if I could have saved time from other engagements—he committed me to his bailiff, who accompanied me to the neighboring farmers. The bailiff told me that Dr. Lee's estate extended thirteen miles in one direction and about two in the other—said he was a good master, probably the best in England, and was beloved by all the tenants. He

introduced me to four large farmers on the Doctor's estate. One of them said he had lived on that farm all his life and that his father had done so before him. Another said that he and his ancestors had cultivated that farm more than a hundred years. Another, who seemed to be well informed on the subject of America, and to think very highly of our country, said that it was a grand thing to have such a place for the excessive population of Europe to resort to, but added, "we have a good country here; our Queen is good; our government is good; we have good land; and in this part we have a good landlord." "I," said he, "am contented; I want nothing better." He was a good, fat, easy-looking sort of a man; and the bailiff told me, after leaving him, that he thought he was worth £50,000. On seeing how good his land was, and learning how much he had made from it, I thought he had pretty good reason to be contented. The names of these farms are Wotton Hill, Cold Comfort, Cold Arbre, &c. The farmer on the last, Mr. Richard Loasley, is entirely a grazing farmer. The others are mainly so, but grow a little corn. Mr. Loasley's farm contains, if I recollect rightly, a little less than 300 acres, and is, as he supposes, as good land as there is in the world for grazing; but he thought would not be remarkably good for any other purpose. He said it had not been plowed for a hundred years certainly, and he knew not how much longer. He would not have it plowed for anything; could not get as good a turf on it in fifty years if it should be plowed up. Besides, he was bound by his lease not to plow it. I asked him if it would produce more by the use of bone dust or any kind of manure? He said it did not require it; it produced well enough without. I asked him how many cattle he had kept in the lot where we were, which contained sixty acres. He could not tell; was buying and selling all the time; had no regular number; but thought that field would keep a cow and three or four sheep to the acre. I asked him if the setting apart such beautiful land, where there was no obstruction to the plow, to perpetual pasturage, was a common thing in England? He said there was very little as good land, perhaps none; but there was considerable land, which all experience taught would produce more net profit as pasture than in any other way, and when this was the case, he asked, why not pasture it, and why not forbid it to be plowed, in the lease? What this man said has been confirmed to me by others. There are certain qualities of land here, which will produce sweet and abundant feed perpetually. These are appropriated to the dairy or the making of beef. If the former, they are dressed with bone dust, to resupply the phosphates carried off in the milk; if to the latter, there is little need of any dressing, other than the animals give them. It should be kept in mind that owing to the cloudiness and dampness of the climate, the droppings of animals are incorporated with the soil far more perfectly than with us. What surprises one not accustomed to this state of things, is the almost perfect evenness with which the pastures are fed; if fed closely, they are close in every part; and if there is rank feed in a pasture, it is about equally so all over. Mr. Loasley's cattle were of various breeds. He buys when and where he can buy to advantage, but prefers the larger breeds for this

land. I never saw finer Durhams, except at the Gloucester show. Such pastures, I think, go far to account for the surpassing excellence of the English cattle. Mr. L. is confident that the large cattle consume less in proportion to their growth—thinks they are more profitable than smaller ones, on his land; but that they would not do well everywhere. Not only the wise appropriation of lands to the various purposes of grazing, but the selection of animals suited to each district, is aimed at and measurably obtained by British agriculturists. It is so with other branches of husbandry; and I would gladly dwell on this point did space permit. Their lands are subjected to one or another rotation of crops, to this or that mode of cultivation, with a wise and far-seeing policy, which in no small degree accounts for their success. Yours truly, J. A. NASH.

Albany County Fair.

The First Annual Fair of this Society took place at Bethlehem Centre, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, Oct. 4, 5 and 6. The organization had from its formation been regarded by many as an experiment of very doubtful success, and its most sanguine friends were not entirely free from the apprehension that the strength and beauty of Albany County would not be adequately represented. The Fair has decided the experiment to be eminently successful, and more than realized the anticipations of all. The attendance on both the public days was very large, and principally from the farming towns. The chill October air and the driving wind kept some exhibitors and more visitors away; still a large proportion of the county and its wife and children gave the sanction of their presence to the occasion.

To convey a correct idea of the extent and character of the show, it would be necessary to publish the entire list of entries and award of premiums, which our limited columns will not permit. We must, therefore, content ourselves and our readers with a brief notice of the several Departments, and the premiums in the stock Department.

The whole number of exhibitors in the Stock Department was *one hundred and twenty-two*. The show of horses was large and embraced many very superior animals. Aside from those to which premiums were awarded in their respective classes, "Young Norman," a six year old Stallion exhibited by Wm. Hunter, of Watervliet and one by Mr. M. Oleott, of Adrian, Mich., are worthy of especial notice. Among single horses, a fine gelding, half English bred, and well trained, shown by Dr. James F. Babcock, of Albany, and a Black Hawk mare of good style and action, exhibited by Luther Tucker, attracted much attention. To both these animals discretionary premiums were awarded. There were several fine ponies. The judges awarded a discretionary prize to Thomas Brown, of Bethlehem, for a well-built bay pony. Several spans of matched carriage horses, for which no premiums were offered, were shown; among these a span exhibited by Mr. Lawton, of Albany, and another by Senator Cooley, were very fine. The matched horses shown by Peter McHarg, of New Scotland, were among the best on exhibition.

The show of Cattle was not so large as was expected. For best lots of Dairy Cows there was no competition, and the display of native stock generally was much less in point of numbers than it should have been. The Farmers will have an eye to this another year, and see that this department is not neglected.

Sheep and swine did not figure largely at the Fair, still all those shown were superior animals. Those to which premiums were awarded comprise a majority of those on exhibition.

The display of Poultry was a prominent feature of the Show. Among the leading exhibitors were Geo. Anderson, Joseph H. Platt, H. N. Wickes, C. W. Godard, N. E. Crandall, of Albany, and E. Elmendorf, of Coeymans. In addition there were a large number

of individuals who showed single coops or pairs of the different varieties.

In the department of Vegetables and Fruits, there were *eighty-one* different exhibitors, and the display was in extent and variety highly creditable to the county. It was remarked by many who attended the State Fair, that the collection of Fruit showed was fully equal to that. Some of the finest fruit was from the towns remote from the city. E. Dorr of Albany, received the premiums on Plums. Mr. Rainsford of New-Scotland, and John R. Myers of Bethlehem, were successful competitors for premiums on Peaches. The number of exhibitors of apples was very large, and some very superior specimens were shown. E. Corning, Jr., James Wilson, C. P. Williams and J. S. Gould of Albany, made a large display of Pears. C. P. Williams, Joel Rathbone, A. Dorr and J. S. Gould, made a splendid show of grapes. We have not space to notice the large number of exhibitors in the vegetable Department, but the show was far in advance of those usually made by the Horticultural Society.

L. Menaud, of Albany, was the only exhibitor of Green House Plants and Flowers, and is entitled to great credit for the public spirit which he uniformly manifests on occasions of this sort.

The display in the Ladies' and Miscellaneous Departments embraced a great variety of manufactured articles. The show of fancy needle-work and embroidery gave evidence of skill and taste on the part of the ladies. The show of daguerreotypes by Churchill, McBride, Schoonmaker, and Thompson and Greene, was very extensive. Taylor & Waterman and Van Gaasbeck & Co. exhibited beautiful specimens of carpets, rugs, &c. A. Marcus and J. B. Hoffman & Co. exhibited specimens of cigars, tobacco and snuff. John S. Robbins showed a fine assortment of hats, caps and furs. W. Richardson displayed window shades and paper-hangings in great variety. In the Ladies', Manufacturers' and Miscellaneous Departments there were *one hundred and ten exhibitors*. The large tent belonging to the State Society was well filled with superior articles, and the general impression left upon the minds of visitors was very favorable.

Emery & Co. made a large exhibition of Farm Implements. Crownse and Siver and O. De Groff, Bethlehem, showed very superior Farm Wagons, to which premiums were awarded. Deering and Dederick exhibited their Horizontal Hay Press. The new Seed Drill and Corn Planter of Bebee and Wormer attracted considerable attention. Two carriages were exhibited by Guardianier and Selkirk, Albany, of superior workmanship.

On the afternoon of the last day, Prof. AMOS DEAN, of Albany, delivered the annual address. Owing to the wind, which made it impossible to raise a tent, it was pronounced in the open air. It was listened to with attention by a large audience, who were instructed by his timely suggestions, and amused by the pleasantries with which his extempore remarks were interspersed.

Directly after the address, followed the exhibition of Horsemanship by Young Ladies. This display attracted a large crowd from the city, and passed off to universal satisfaction. No one seemed to question the propriety of the thing, and all conceded that it was an attractive feature, which other counties would do well to imitate. As certainly as horseback riding is a healthful exercise, and that to sit and manage a horse well is an accomplishment for a lady to be proud of, so certainly is it desirable to encourage a generous rivalry in equestrianism. Five young ladies entered the ring, to whom premiums were awarded as follows:—

1st Prize, Miss C. M. SPRINGSTEEN, Albany, *Silver Pitcher*.

2d Prize, Miss LEAH M. IRELAND, Watervliet, *Silver Goblet*.

3d Prize, Miss SARAH OSBORN, Watervliet, *Silver Cup*.

4th Prize, Miss HELEN LAWTON, Coeymans, *Silver Spoons*.

5th Prize to Miss PHOEBE BEARDSLEY, Albany, *Pair of Silver Butter Knives*.

The total receipts of the Society, for members and single tickets during the Fair, was over \$900. The whole amount of premiums offered were not awarded, and it is expected that the receipts of the Society will meet its liabilities.

HORSES.

Stallions.—1. J. Van Zandt, New Scotland, \$6. 2. James Cornell, Berne, \$4. 3. J. C. La Grange, New Scotland, \$2. **Three Year Olds**.—1. John B. Winne, Knox, \$5. 2. Peter Conley, Coeymans, \$3. 3. Valentine Oliver, Bethlehem, \$2. Also, favorably, Messrs. Link and Hunter, Watervliet, and William Earle, Berne.

Matched Horses.—1. George Lasher, Bethlehem, \$5. 2. C. H. Whitbeck, Watervliet, \$3. 3. Elias Milbanks, Bethlehem, Trans.

Draught Horses.—1. E. Corning, Jr., Bethlehem, \$5. 2. R. Kimmey, do., \$3. 3. G. Vanderpool, do., Trans.

Farm Horses.—1. J. Burhaus, Coeymans, \$5. 2. I. J. Mull, Bethlehem, \$3. 3. Jeremiah Mead, do., Trans.

Single Horses.—1. Mr. Springstead, Albany, \$4. 2. Col. Lansing, Watervliet, \$2. 3. John Calanan, Coeymans, Trans.

Three Year Old Colts.—1. E. D. Rainsford, New Scotland, \$4. 2. Jacob Winne, Guiderland, \$2. 3. James A. Loucks, New Scotland, Trans.

Two Year Olds.—1. Wm. Beardsley, Albany, \$4. 2. H. Wiltie, Coeymans, \$2. 3. E. D. Rainsford, Trans.

Yearling Colts.—1. Hiram Kelsey, Rensselaerville, \$3. 2. N. Schermerhorn, New Scotland, \$2. 3. J. A. Loucks, do., Trans.

Mares and Colts.—1. John J. Van Alen, Bethlehem, \$5. 2. J. C. La Grange, New Scotland, \$3. 3. W. M. Bullock, Bethlehem, \$2. 4. Lewis Myers, Bethlehem, Trans.

CATTLE.

DEVONS.—G. W. Durant, Rensselaerville, for best Bull, \$5. Peleg Weeden, Rensselaerville, for best Cow, \$3, and for best Yearling Bull, \$3.

DURHAMS.—George Campbell, Albany, for best two year old, \$4—Charles Thornton, Guiderland, best yearling, \$3. 2d. Peter Van Wie, Bethlehem, \$2. 3d. W. M. Bullock, Trans. 2d best Bull Calf, Hiram Kelsey, Rensselaerville, Trans.

Cows.—1. George Cary, Bethlehem, \$5. 2. do., \$3. 3. do., \$2. W. M. Bullock, for best three year old Heifer, \$1, and best yearling Heifer, \$2. Geo. Cary, for best Heifer Calf, \$2.

HEREFORDS.—E. Corning, Jr., Bethlehem, was the only exhibitor, and was awarded the eight first premiums.

AYRSHIRES.—E. P. Prentice, Mount Hope, exhibited eight fine animals from his herd, for exhibition only, for which the committee tendered him their thanks. For the best two year old Bull, James W. Jolly, Coeymans, \$4. Best Bull Calf, John Conger, Westerlo, \$2.

NATIVE Cows.—1. C. Wickham, Coeymans, \$5. 2. Geo. Cary, \$3. 3. John Conger, \$2. For best two year old Heifer, 1. Gilbert Wemple, Bethlehem, \$3. 2. J. V. L. Osterhout, do., \$2. 3. O. De Groff, do., \$1. For yearling Heifer, 1. Francis Leedings, Coeymans, \$2. 2. O. De Groff, \$1. 3. Samuel Jolly, Bethlehem, Trans.

OXEN.—1. Best ten yoke from one town, Joseph Hilton, New Scotland, \$10. 2. Gilbert Wemple, Bethlehem, \$8. For single yoke, 1. Joseph Hilton, \$6. 2. J. T. Kinney, Bethlehem, \$5. 3. Henry Friday, Bethlehem, \$4. For four year old—1. Jacob Sopp, Bethlehem, \$5. 2. Henry Calanan, New Scotland, \$4. 3. John Burhaus, Coeymans, \$3. For three year old Steers—1. Ira Carhart, Coeymans, \$5. For best yearling Steers, Stephen Calanan, \$3.

SHEEP.

RAMS.—Peleg Weeden, for 1st and 2d best Merinos, \$3 and \$2. 3. W. P. Brayton, Bethlehem, Trans. For best middle woolled—1. M. Springstead, New Scotland, \$3. 2. J. Sager, Bethlehem, \$2. To James E. Mackay, Rensselaerville, a discretionary premium of \$3, for eight buck lambs, $\frac{1}{2}$ French.

EWES.—Best fine woolled, J. E. Mackay, \$5. Best middle woolled, J. Sager, \$5. Best long woolled, W. P. Brayton, Bethlehem, \$5. Best five lambs, Gilbert Wemple, \$5.

SWINE.

BOARS.—1. J. Winne, Bethlehem, \$4. 2. E. Corning, Jr., \$3. 3. E. Milbanks, \$2.

Sows.—Some superior animals exhibited, but not having pigs, all were excluded but one, which was awarded the 3d premium, E. Milbanks, \$2.

Pigs.—1. G. M. Bender, Bethlehem, \$3. 2. J. Winne, \$2. 3. E. Milbanks, 1.

POULTRY.

Premiums were awarded, to George Anderson, Albany, for best coop Shanghai Fowls—to Joseph H. Platt, Albany, for Silver Poland, Bantams, and Black Shanghaes—to H. N. Wickes, Albany, for Game, India, Irish hen feather, and English and Moor Pheasants—to C. W. Goddard, Albany, Chittagong and for Bremen Geese—to E. Corning, Jr., for White Shanghaes—to C. Rathbone, Kenwood, for Spanish—to E. L. Woodruff, Coeymans, for Speckled Shanghai—to Charles Selkirk, Bethlehem, and John Friday, Bethlehem, for Black Poland—to J. I. Winne, for Speckled Ducks, and L. G. Warren, Bethlehem, for Geese.

PLOWING MATCH.—1. A. B. McCormick, Bethlehem, \$6. 2. John Vanderbilt, Bethlehem, \$4. 3. Philip Kimmey, Coeymans, \$3.

DAIRY.—Butter—1. Jurian Winne, \$4. 2. J. Vanderzee, Coeymans, \$3. 3. I. Vedder, do., \$2. No cheese exhibited.

BAKEWELL CATTLE.—Can you or any of your subscribers tell me through the Cultivator, where I can get a full blooded Bakewell Bull, not exceeding two years old, and what will be the price of him? CHARLES T. GRAVES. *East Cleveland, Sept. 24, 1853.*

We know of no pure Bakewell or Long-horned cattle, in this country.

Re-seeding to Grass.

Messrs. EDITORS—We have been disappointed in our newly stocked fields, from the unparalleled drouth in this section. Would it be best to sow grass seed this fall, and harrow it in? or go through another course of cropping and manuring? D. R. S. *Malone, N. Y.*

There is nothing to prevent an immediate and successful re-seeding of the ground in which the grass-seed failed by the past season's drouth. We have been quite successful with the practice of sowing the seed, without any other crop, early in spring, and brushing it in. It commences growing immediately, and if plenty is sown, affords most abundant pasture for cattle for the last half of the same year. We have at the present moment a field affording to our milch cows the most productive and luxuriant growth of grass, by far, to be found in the neighborhood, that was seeded in this way, last spring, at the rate of half a bushel of mixed timothy and clover to the acre. This abundant supply of seed, gives, we think, about twice as heavy a crop as that afforded by the usual quantity. If the land could be plowed late in fall, it would probably fit it well for the early sowing of the grass seed.

Farming in Windham County, Ct.

MR. TUCKER—I observed in one of the late numbers of the *Cultivator* a notice of an address delivered before the Windham Co. (Ct.) Ag. Society the last season. This Society has been as good as dead for a number of years past, but has lately revived through the exertions of some of the more enterprising farmers in Brooklyn and the vicinity.

Perhaps a short sketch of its condition as a farming district, may be interesting to some of your readers.

Windham County embraces within its limits a great variety of soil, and exhibits among its occupants every degree of thrift from the skillful management of our best farmers to those slip shod operators which scarce deserve the name of husbandry.

As a general thing the eastern part of the county is much the poorest. The face of the country is hilly, the soil of a yellowish cast, very thin and full of stones. These characteristics find their culminating points in the towns of Willington, Westford, and Union. Here may be found lands as near barren as one could desire, and which I believe it would puzzle even Prof. Mapes to find means to renovate. In addition to this discouraging fact, want of neatness seems to be a prevailing fault. Stone walls are dilapidated or overgrown with bushes. Door-yards are neglected. Buildings are put up in bad taste; the barns especially, frequently looking more as if they came together by accident than according to any plan, while the barnyards are often as extensive as the farm. Pig styes are built by the side of the road, and their proper occupants are generally allowed the freedom of the highway. One cannot resist the conviction, either that farming is a secondary business, or that the farmer has become discouraged and retreated to his domicile, while his natural enemies are advancing upon him with rapid strides and threatening to drive him from the country. Grass is the principal crop, and one would naturally suppose that the most would be made of it, but instead of this I know of some farmers who suffer autumn to make its appearance before their first crop of hay is cut. As a natural consequence the cattle are small, making but a slow growth; because on such kind of feed they lose nearly as much in the winter as they gain in the summer. I would not impeach the industry or ability of the good people of this section, but if I wished in a single term to describe their general style of farming I know of none that would apply so well as the word *slack*.

This is rather a dark picture it is true, but it will be remembered that I have been speaking of general characteristics. There are single farms of great natural beauty and fertility, and some are made such by the hand of patient persevering laborers. There are some

signs of improvement too in the mode of conducting farming operations. Occasionally you may see the independent horse-rake bounding over rocks and bogs, doing the work of five or six men, and doing it like a man. Sometimes you will find a man who has come to the conclusion that it is better to cut up his corn at the roots and so save all his fodder, than to top it and save only half. And there are those who prefer keeping their stock yarded and saving their manure, to having it wasted away by the streams, and so enrich the lands of others at the expense of their own.

I think the greatest promise of improvement is in the use of guano. Though but just beginning to be introduced, it has already effected some very favorable results. The most common way of applying it as far as my knowledge extends, is in raising a crop of buckwheat. To this it seems well adapted, and its effects are generally very marked. I have seen, this season, buckwheat standing waist high on a gravelly knoll which for a long time has not been thought worth cultivation, and this solely by the application of a hundred pounds of guano to the acre, at the time of sowing.

I was told of another instance in which it was applied at the same rate, and the yield was twenty bushels per acre, while on land adjoining this and precisely similar to it in character and treatment, except the guano, the crop was barely worth harvesting. Still another instance was related to me of its successful use on a very unproductive lot of land containing about seven acres. I think the owner told me that twenty acres of such land would not pasture a cow. It was plowed and sowed with buckwheat and guano. The yield was a fair one. The next year it was again dressed with about 50 lbs. and planted with potatoes. The produce this year was 400 bushels potatoes, and not far from 80 of buckwheat, which was self sown and grew with the potatoes, being carefully saved at the time the potatoes were dug. The last spring it was sowed with oats and grass seed. The crop was estimated at 30 bushels per acre, and there is a prospect of a fine crop of grass the next year. Considering that guano was the only manure used, and that the land was almost worthless at first, this may be called a very good operation. I am not sure whether guano was used with the oats. One farmer has become so well satisfied of its value for his land that he ordered a ton the last spring, the greater part of which he used himself.

Such facts as these show that the spirit of improvement is at work even here, and that nothing is needed but a few more farmers of the right stamp, and the fostering care of one or more well organized and efficient Ag. Societies, to turn many of these wilderness places into fruitful fields.

I have been speaking, it will be recollected, of that part of the county the least valuable for agricultural purposes. There are other portions of it which in point of natural fertility or skillful management will compare favorably with any part of the State. Such are the towns of Brooklyn, Pomfret and South Woodstock. Having the pleasure of a personal acquaintance with Hon. WILLIAM LYON who owns a farm in the latter place of some two hundred acres, I have repeatedly had occasion to notice the admirable system maintained on his establishment, and the substantial manner in which all his improvements are made.

When Mr. LYON took possession of his farm, a young man, it was heavily encumbered with mortgages. These under his skillful management have not only been paid off, but a family has been educated, large and expensive barns and out buildings have been built, and his farm and stock meantime kept in a state of constant improvement. He ascribes his success to a few general principles which he early adopted and has steadily adhered to. These are deep and thorough cultivation, a free use of plaster, and the raising of his own stock. He informed me that his whole farm, with the exception of an acre or two, has been under cultivation with the plow, a thing quite too uncommon in

that part of the country, but which required in his case no little patience and perseverance to accomplish, as he made it a point to dig or blast out most of the rocks, and lay them into walls. He began the improvement of his stock with a cross of what he called the Holder-ness with the native; since which time he has carefully bred from his best animals, and occasionally crossed with valuable ones of the improved breeds until he produced a herd which left little to be desired, either for dairying purposes or for the stall.

The farm is at present managed by his gentlemanly and enterprising son-in-law, BENJAMIN SUMNER, Esq. He is giving his attention chiefly to the breeding of the Improved Short horns, and the raising of fruit, particularly apples. Of the latter he has a fine orchard of choice varieties, planted with his own hands, which is just beginning to bear.

His stock of full blood short horns, is not large, but includes some superior animals, and his grades do him much credit as a breeder of stock. I should not omit to mention in this connection his Suffolk swine and South Down sheep, both fine of their kind, though perhaps the latter are wanting something in size.

But I fear this communication has been extended to an unreasonable length. If so, the fruitfulness of the theme must be my apology. E. N. N.

Book-Farming.

MESSRS. EDITORS—I presume there are not many of your subscribers who have not one or more neighbors within a mile or two from them, who are in the habit of sneering, more or less openly, at book-farmers and book-farming. I wish all such silly or self-conceited persons were obliged to sit still patiently and hear read or repeated to them the substance of the remarks which W. S. King made upon this subject in his late Address before the N. H. Agricultural Society. The following contains the pith of what he offered on this subject: "What is called Book-Farming is simply the appropriation of the experience of other farmers, which they or others for them, have thought proper to print. If a farmer, known to you to be a good farmer and a truth-telling man, tells you that by a system of management differing somewhat from yours, he has nearly doubled his crops, you listen with widely-opened ears; you store in memory every particular of his proceeding, and you determine to pursue, another year, that plan that has so well answered the purposes of your neighbor. But if this very man, desirous of benefitting a whole community by his experience, and having too much business at home to go about repeating his success from man to man, by word of mouth, shall write out his experiment, and cause it to be printed in a book or periodical, that moment it becomes a part of book-farming, and ceases to have virtue in the eyes of many. There is a magic in types, it would seem, that converts what is wisdom when spoken into folly when printed. But the species of book-farming, that above all others calls into play the prejudices of working farmers, is the printed advice of men who work more with their brains than with their hands; of men, who observe the operations of others, and carry into practice, by the hands of hired help, what commends itself to their judgment by its fruits; of men who regard agriculture as a science."

Let the above find its way to the eyes or the ears of every sneerer at book-farming, and perhaps some of them may begin to suspect that they have not been so very wise as they have thought themselves.

AGRICULTURAL PAPER.—After the monthly reading of the *Cultivator*, I can almost imagine having attended an Agricultural meeting, composed of some of the most intelligent farmers of the Union, the editor in the chair, your humble servant in some unnoticed corner, though none the less interested. Good agricultural reading makes farmers more proud of their calling, and happier in the discharge of its duties, and it incites them to the higher exertion of the mind. Yours, D. R. S. *Malone, N. Y., Sept. 1853.*

The Grazier.

Raising Horses.

The following plain common-sense remarks on the defects of breeding horses as commonly practiced by farmers, are from the Report of H. H. Fox, to the Wisconsin State Agricultural Society, as published in its volume of Transactions. When it is remembered that an ugly or bad horse, costs perhaps more than its value to raise, and quite as much as to raise the most perfect animal, the latter perhaps netting a hundred per cent on the expense of rearing, the importance of securing the best breeders is very evident.

"The raising of the horse and his application to labor must always constitute one of the most important and interesting branches of agriculture; and already not a few of our farmers are beginning to turn their attention particularly to that business.

"But it is very plain, even judging from some of the specimens exhibited at the fair, that most of our farmers breed without due regard to proper system, or to the class of animals most desirable for pleasure and profit.

"They seem to think that a mare rendered worthless by vicious habits, or disease, will do very well to raise a colt from, no matter if she is blind, spavined, ring-boned, or splinted, small sized, or ill shaped—if they can only procure a good, large, fat horse for a sire.

"This is a very bad system and ought to be eradicated. The great evil is, they pay too little attention to the kind of mare. Both animals ought to be perfect as near as we can judge and get them, or else our breed of horses will never be generally good, but a spurious race will continue, and degeneration progress. If breeders do not pay more attention to the hereditary transmission of disease; if we do not exercise proper judgment with regard to form, constitution, and freedom from hereditary taint, how can we expect a sound or healthy offspring from either sire or dam?

"The principal maladies in the horse, capable of being developed in their issue, sooner or later, are—all defective organizations, splints, spavins, ring-bones, curbs, tendency to contraction of the feet, and founder; also disease of the eyes and respiratory organs. Of this we have daily ocular demonstration, together with the testimony of the best veterinary pathologists. The improvements which have taken place in the different breeds of animals, show clearly how much we have under command, by judicious crossing, size, form, action, disposition, &c., and tendency to health or disease. Knowing all this, of what vital consequence it is to avoid all defects in animals intended to breed from. Let us not forget the old saying, "that like begets like;" and not continue to do as too many of us have done, year after year, breed from animals possessing the seeds of disease, and almost every bad quality, evident to the most casual observer. We should also give our especial attention to the breeding of such a class of horses as combine, in the greatest degree, the desirable qualities of power and speed—add to these, sufficient size, mettle, and docility of disposition, with proper symmetry of form, and compactness—strong, clean, hard bone, and tough hoof—and we have the most desirable horse for general business, and one that will always command a good price in any market. The muscles and tendons should be well developed, for the strength of an animal does not depend so much upon the size of the bones as on that of the muscles. Many animals with large bones are weak, their muscles being small. How much better for us to take pains and endeavor to raise good horses, than by carelessness to continue to inundate the country with deformed, diseased, worthless scrubs. It certainly costs as much, and even more, to raise poor, inferior animals, besides the mortification of having such a drug on our hands. The name "Western horse," might be a passport to any market, if we would only pay sufficient attention to judicious selection in breeding.

"It is true, it would be difficult, to procure animals without some defect; but our aim should be onward, and we should make use of every reasonable exertion to select such as come nearest to the desirable standard.

"The first and most important step towards improvement, is to select the right kind of mare, full of health and vigor. Youatt says it is more difficult to select a good mare to breed from, than a horse, because she should possess somewhat opposite qualities. In order to improve the form of the offspring, she should be proportionally larger than the stallion; her carcass should be rather long, to give room for the expansion of the fetus—yet with compactness of form, and shortness of leg, chest roomy, shoulders oblique and deep, withers well raised, girth large, loins broad, and quarters wide, shanks flat and clean. The muscles and their appendages (the tendons) cannot be too prominently developed in the brood mare; however desirable, or even perfect may have been the conformation of the sire, every good point may be neutralized or lost by the defective structure of the mare.

"The essential points should be good in both parents, or any minor defect in either must be got rid of by excellence in that particular point in the other. The care-

less breeder too, often so badly pairs the animals, that the good points of each are almost lost, the defects of both increased, and the produce inferior to either sire or dam.

"Another very bad practice, is that of breeding from young animals before nature is well developed in form, and every organ has acquired full maturity.

"As to the stallion, it is a well established fact, that the cross between large, upright shouldered, overgrown horses and small mares, generally produce a race of long legged, small chested, spongy boned animals.

"It is also a well established fact, that to obtain speed, courage, spirit and bottom, with hardness of bone, we must have what breeders call a strong dash of blood; and we should aim to get as much blood as we can into the horse of all-work, consistently with the necessary weight. However, in doing this we should avoid the long-legged, narrow-loined, pot-gutted, degenerate class of race horses, and endeavor to select such as are well formed, with sufficient bone, body and muscle, and shortness of leg, to enable them to bear up under long continued and severe exertion. Diomedes, Sir Archy, Medley, and other far famed thorough breeds, are said to have possessed these very desirable qualities in a pre-eminent degree, and transmitted them largely to their offspring.

"It is said that Lee's celebrated legion, in the South, during the Revolution, chiefly owed its great efficiency to these qualities, and the prevalence of blood in his horses. They were remarkable for their wonderful endurance of hunger, thirst and fatigue, making them the terror and scourge of the enemy. According to the turf register, the blood of the Lindsay Arabian, once the property of the Emperor of Morocco, entered largely into these horses. With such well authenticated facts before us, we should feel fully impressed that we can count on no permanent supply of desirable horses for saddle or harness, without a portion of good blood, and a judicious and careful system of breeding. Always bearing in mind, that in order to produce the most perfect formed animal, plenty of nourishment is necessary from the first period of its existence until the growth is completed."

The Horse Fair at Springfield.

Great preparations are making for the "National Exhibition of Horses," which is to be held at Springfield, Mass., commencing on the 19th of this month, and continuing for four days. We find the following list of judges, &c., in the Springfield papers:

BOARD OF JUDGES.

On Thorough-Breds.—Col. T. P. ANDREWS, New Orleans, Lou., Chairman; David Leavitt, Great Barrington, Mass.; Eps. Seymour, Brattleboro, Vt.; John B. Finlay, Saratoga Springs, N. Y.; Joseph H. Billings, West Roxbury, Mass.

Stallions of 7 years.—Hon. JOHN M. BORTS, Richmond, Va., Chairman; Maj. James M. Hamill, Philadelphia, Penn.; David Aiken, Greenfield, Mass.; S. F. Dupont, Brandywine, Del.; Col. Thomas Adams, Roxbury, Mass.

Stallions 4 to 7 years.—MAHLON COTTRILL, Montpelier, Vt., Chairman; Benjamin Thurston, Lowell, Ms.; Warren Delano, Jr., Newburgh, N. Y.; James De Wolf Perry, Bristol, R. I.; Frederick Watts, Carlisle, Penn.

Geldings.—WILLIAM S. KING, Mantion, R. I., Chairman; S. D. Harris, Columbus, Ohio; John S. Walker, Claremont, N. H.; J. F. S. Huddleston, Boston, Mass.; Dr. A. T. Watson, Staten Island, N. Y.

Breeding Mares and Foals.—LUCIUS M. SARGEANT, Boston, Mass., Chairman; Henry Hurlbut, Winchester, Conn.; Hiram J. Hartsell, Philadelphia, Penn.; Thos. Motley Jr., Jamaica, Mass.; Norman Gowdy, West Martinsburg, Lewis Co., N. Y.

Matched Horses.—Hon. JOHN A. KING, Jamaica, N. Y., Chairman; Hon. Andrew Stevenson, Albemarle, Va.; Edward Harris, Moorestown, N. J.; Chauncey P. Holcomb, Newcastle, Del.; Horatio Sargeant, Springfield, Mass.

Fancy Horses.—Gov. ANTHONY COLBY, New London, N. H., Chairman; Josiah Crosby, North Andover, Mass.; John Holloway, Henderson, Ky.; Charles H. Childs, Providence, R. I.; Robert R. Morris, Westchester, N. Y.

Colts.—Dr. E. HOLMES, Winthrop, Maine, Chairman; Sheldon Pease, Cleveland, Ohio; Dr. F. Y. Porcher, Charleston, S. C.; George D. Wheeler, Deposit, Del.; James D. Wasson, Albany, N. Y.

Farm or Draught Horses.—SAMUEL MEDARY, Columbus, Ohio, Chairman; George W. Nesmith, Franklin, N. H.; Henry A. Dyer, Brooklyn, Conn.; Ezra Forristall, Boston, Mass.; Col. D. H. Abell, Genesee, N. Y.

Ponies.—P. T. BARNUM, Bridgeport, Conn., Chairman; John R. Blake, Boston, Mass.; Dr. M. B. Mead, Providence, R. I.; Benjamin F. Jackson, Saranac, Clinton Co., N. Y.; Gen. Samuel Veazie, Bangor, Maine.

GRAND AGRICULTURAL BANQUET.

On FRIDAY, the 21st, a grand AGRICULTURAL FESTIVAL will be held upon the Exhibition grounds, under

WRIGHT'S MAMMOTH TENT, which will accommodate 3000 persons.

Premiums on a liberal scale have been advertised for the presentation of Fruits to be exhibited upon the tables, and an unusual display may be reasonably anticipated.

Letters of acceptance have been received in answer to invitations to numerous distinguished gentlemen, among whom may be named His Excellency Gov. CLIFFORD, Hon. RUFUS CHOATE, Hon. EDWARD EVERETT, Hon. WILLIAM H. SEWARD, Hon. JOHN A. KING, Hon. MARSHALL P. WILDER, and others.

Addresses will be delivered at the Tent on that day, occupying the remainder of the day after the dinner has been served.

Another Sale of Imported Cattle.

The Short Horned cattle, imported last summer by the "Madison County (Ohio) Importing Company," were sold at auction, at London in that county, on the 27th of September, and brought the following prices:

BULLS.

Thornbury, White, 3 years old, Felix W. & Harness Renick, Pickaway Co.,	\$875
Sheffield, Roan, 3 years old, J. W. Robinson, Madison Co.,	1,500
Mario, Roan, 2 years old, Robert Read, Madison Co.,	1,550
Marquis, Red-roan, 2 years old, James Fullington, Madison Co.,	3,000
Starlight, Red-roan, 2 years old, Charles Phillips, Madison Co.,	3,000
Beaulere, Red-roan, 2 years old, M. D. Creighton, Madison Co.,	750
Symmetry, Light-roan, 2 years old, Walter Dunn, Madison Co.,	1,150
Farmer's Boy, Roan, 2 years old, Joseph Robinson, Madison Co.,	925
Prince Albert, Roan, 1 year old, John F. Chinowith, Madison Co.,	300
Colonel, Red and White, 1 year old, Walter Dunn, Madison Co.,	1,350
Sportsman, Roan, 1 year old, James Foster, Madison Co.,	700
Prince Edward, Roan, 1 year old, M. B. Wright, Fayette Co.,	475
Rocket, White, 1 year old, David Watson, Union Co.,	475
Splendor, Roan, 1 year old, F. A. Yocome, Madison Co.,	500
Duke of Liverpool, Roan, 3 months old, Geo. McDonald, Madison Co.,	550

15 Bulls, average \$1,160 each, \$17,400

COWS.

Victoria, Roan, 3 years old, Quin Minchall, Madison County,	600
Picotee, Roan, 6 years old, Jesse Watson, Madison County,	1,275
Stapleton Lass, 3 years old, Jesse Watson, Madison County,	1,350
Princess, Roan, (a young heifer calf,) 2 months old, William Watson, Madison Co.,	690
Miss Hilton, Roan, 2 years old, David Watson, Madison Co.,	875
Alexandrina, White, 2 years old, David Watson, Madison Co.,	560
Blossom, Roan, 1 year old, David Watson, Madison County,	650
Yorkshire Dairy Cow, Roan, 6 years old, no pedigree, a great milker, Josiah Negley, Clarke Co.,	425
Yorkshire Roan, heifer calf, 5 months old, on pedigree, Joseph Raybourne, Madison Co.,	295

9 Cows and heifers, averaging \$746.67 each, \$6,720

24 head of cattle, averaging \$1,005 each, \$24,120

COTSWOLD SHEEP.

13 Rams, all yearlings, sold from \$45 to \$110 each, in all \$725—averaging \$55 each.
7 Ewes, from \$75 to \$115 each, \$655; average, \$93.50 each;
20 Sheep, average \$69 each, \$1,380. The sheep speculation only paid cost, hardly that. They were a fair lot, nothing extra.

SUFFOLK PIGS.

1 Boar, 6 months old, \$200. 1 Sow in pig, 9 months old, \$120; 1 Sow do do, \$200. 9 others, younger, from 16 to \$80. The 12 pigs brought \$918, average, \$76.50 each.

Cattle, \$24,120

Sheep, 1,380

Pigs, 918

\$26,418

Black Leg in Calves.

Messrs. EDITORS—I noticed a remedy for the "black leg in calves," in the Country Gentleman of the 15th September, which, like many prescriptions for the human species, seems superlatively ridiculous; misleading the credulous and wonder-loving, without contributing to science or proving efficacious in the removal of disease.

We would like to inquire if the upper side of the tail would not answer? or whether the introduction of the clove or garlic into any other portion of the body, or even into the stomach would not do as well? Is the

rapid traveling of the medicine from the tail headwards a sure indication of its happy remedial action? If so, we trust that if "F. J. F." should be attacked with mortification of the hand, he will not complain if his surgeon should cleave a toe and introduce a garlic, and leave him to the rapid remedial action of the same. What is *science* in the one case is so in the other.

We have no remedy to suggest, but enter our decided protest against quack prescriptions, and mysterious and wonder-working manipulations, whether designed to be carried out on man or beast. MEDICUS.

The Dairy.

Butter Making.

The following good practical directions for the management of milk-rooms, and for the manufacture of butter on a moderate scale, we copy from the article furnished the Wisconsin Agricultural Society, by ALLEN W. DODGE, of Hamilton, Mass., and which embraces the best modes as practiced in New England:

Before the milk is taken to the milk-room, it should be cooled. To effect this object, it is usual to let it stand in some cool place, in the pails. In some large dairies, however, it is strained into a large vat, which does not stand in the milk-room; and when considerably cooled, is drawn off into pans, which are set in their appropriate place. If milk, warm from the cows, is taken in large quantities to the milk-room; it imparts to it a higher temperature than is suitable for the keeping of the milk till all the cream rises. The pans—those used in this region are now always of tin, though formerly earthen ones were common—should not be filled more than half or two-thirds full; the hotter the weather, the less milk should be in a pan, as it will cool the quicker. The milk should stand in these pans, carefully arranged on shelves, until all the cream is risen, when it is skimmed. The time varies, according to the weather; from thirty-six to forty-eight hours, may be taken as the usual period, with our best butter-makers. In the hottest weather, the milk sours before all the cream is risen. As soon as it is discovered that the milk is soured, the cream should be skimmed off, as it is injured by remaining in contact with it. As little milk as possible should be taken off with it, in the process. By some experienced persons, it is thought this souring of the milk is decidedly injurious to the quality of the butter; but in the hottest of the weather it is extremely difficult, in the milk-rooms that are common in New England, to keep milk so as to prevent its souring before the cream rises. When skimmed, the cream is kept in stone or earthen pots, in a cool place, till it is churned—care being taken to stir it daily, to prevent its moulding and acquiring an unpleasant flavor.

Now as to the milk-room, where shall it be, above or below ground? This is a highly important question, and perhaps the quantity and quality of the butter made on a farm depends more on the proper location and construction of the milk-room, than upon any thing else. In the neighborhood of Philadelphia, the very best butter region in all the country, spring houses are the most approved. The floor of these is of brick or stone, and the water is admitted at one end, and flows over it, so as to keep the pans immersed two or three inches, and passes off at the other side, the depth being governed by a gate through which the water has its outlet. This, in hot weather, must be an excellent arrangement. But as suitable springs are not always conveniently situated for this purpose, and as butter-making comprises only a part, and generally but a small part, of the farm operations in New England, it is usual here to build a milk-room on the north side of the cellar, flagging it with stones or brick, and carefully pointing the walls with mortar, so as to keep out all vermin. Shelves are placed around this room for the pans, and in the hottest weather the pans are placed on the floor, as being cooler than the shelves. Some persons make a practice of dashing cold water occasionally on the floor to cool the room—a worse practice could not, perhaps, be devised. The water leaves a moisture, which is extremely detrimental to the quality of the butter. In fact, the dampness which is generated in all cellars and under-ground vaults, greatly impairs the value of such places for milk to be churned into butter—what is gained in coolness, is overbalanced by dampness. The butter acquires a flavor—a taint—that no after skill in management can change or destroy.

In this conviction, it is now the practice of some of our best butter-makers to keep their milk above ground. For this purpose, a suitable room is provided in the shadiest and coolest part of the house—one, into which hot air has but little access, either by the rays of the sun, or by passage ways leading out of doors. A window on the north side, let down at the top, during the night, will afford sufficient ventilation and serve to cool the room. It should, however, be covered with gauze or

wire-screening, to keep out insects. In such a room, milk may be kept without souring till the cream rises, the most of the summer. In extreme hot weather, resort may be had to the cellar as the safest place, under the circumstances. From a fair trial of both ways of keeping milk, I have no hesitation in giving it as my opinion, that a cool room above ground is decidedly preferable to one in the cellar, and that every reasonable effort should be made to provide such a room, and to make it cool by shade trees and other means, where it is desired to have sweet and luscious butter. I have no doubt that by the exercise of ingenuity, a house, impenetrable to heat, might be built, and at small expense, somewhat after the fashion of our modern ice-houses, that in the hottest weather would keep milk sweet till the cream has all risen. These houses are made with double sides, about a foot apart, and the space between is filled in with dry tan—a non-conductor of heat; the roof is left with a space aloft for ventilation, while a double door precludes the admission of much hot air, on entrance to the house.

In the milk-room the greatest cleanliness is indispensable. It being a cool place, sometimes it happens that other articles besides milk, cream and butter, are deposited in it for safe keeping. But this is ruinous economy. Flesh and fish may keep there, but they taint the atmosphere, and leave a real sting behind, as the consumers of butter, to their sorrow, sometimes find. A milk-room should be used only for its legitimate purposes, and not made into an omnium-gatherum. So, too, the utmost neatness should be used in all the management of the dairy—carefully clean and scald the pans, the pails, the jars, and scrub off all drippings of milk from shelves and floor in the milk-room. A drop of milk in a few days grows rancid, and communicates its effluvia to the whole room. But it would be difficult to enumerate all the ways in which the dairy-maid should exercise cleanliness; suffice it to say, that if she has not a love of neatness, either innate or acquired—a pride in having every thing clean and nice, and in being herself the pattern of neatness, she has not the proper qualification for her duty—she has mistaken her calling, and the sooner she retires from it, unless she turn over an entire new leaf, the better for her, and the cream, and the butter, that pass through her hands.

In the large dairies of New York, the milk is churned without being set for the cream to rise. The advantages of this practice, I am unable to treat of, as it does not prevail in this section of the country. Cream only is churned here. The sour milk is fed out to swine, and for weaned pigs no better article of food can be used. In a dairy of ten or twelve cows, it is more usual to churn but once a week—though some farmers churn twice. In hot weather, it is a great object to have the butter come hard, as it can be more conveniently managed, and is actually better, than when it comes soft. The cream, therefore, must be well cooled before churning. It is sometimes placed in vaults dug in the cellar, and sometimes lowered in cans into the well. If the cream is not cooled, it is next to impossible, in very warm weather, to make the butter come hard, by the use either of ice or cold water in the churn, or around it. The thermometer churn, which is so constructed that cold water may be kept between the two sides of the churn, is but a partial remedy for the evil. The water will be more likely to become warm, than the cream to become cold—still, if the cream is first cooled, the cold water operates to keep it cool.

As to the varieties of churns, there are as many almost as of plows. Many of them, and both of them, are mere innovations, and not improvements. In churns, there are two principles, the crank and the dash, which makes the principal difference in them. Each of these has its advocates; though the crank seems in New England, at least, to have superseded the dash-churn. All things considered, it may be doubted, whether there is any better churn than the old fashioned barrel-churn. The slats on the arms, however, should always be flat and not round, as the former offer more resistance to the cream, and create a greater agitation of it than the latter. Where the dash churn is used, its operation may be facilitated, by attaching the handle with a string to an elastic pole, inserted horizontally to the walls above, so as to operate as a lever in raising the dash. Whatever description of churn is used, it should be such as will admit of the butter being easily taken from it, and also of its being easily and effectually cleansed after using. Here, as in every part of the process, neatness is the cardinal virtue.

When the butter is taken from the churn, it is worked, salted, and set in the milk-room for a day, when it is again worked over, so as to get out all the butter-milk; and, with us, put up in pound lumps for market. Some people practice washing the butter in cold water before taking it from the churn; but the more general belief is, that water injures the flavor of the butter, and impairs its keeping properties. The usual method of working the butter here, is with the hands—hands which must be clean and cool. The contrivances of brakes and other butter-workers, have not yet gained much favor with our dairy maids; if our dairies were larger, the necessity of the case might compel their introduction. The quantity of salt used is about an ounce to the pound; though the quantity is not in general regulated by weight, but by the judgment of the dairy maid. Butter, when it comes soft, requires the use of

more salt than that which is hard, as it will work out with the buttermilk. There are so many tastes in the community, that it is no easy task to salt butter so as to suit all. The great point is to salt it enough to have it keep, without salting so much as to injure its flavor. Purchasers of butter are rather averse to buying too much salt in their butter.

Butter that is packed down for future consumption, or for sale, requires a different management. It requires more salt—and to ensure its better keeping, a little pulverized loaf sugar and saltpetre, is sometimes added to the salt. It is usually put down in jars or tubs, and in layers, between which is a sprinkling of salt. The butter should be packed snugly in the firkin or jar, covered with a cloth, and then with the proper cover of the vessel. It should be kept in a dry and cool place. If it be kept in the cellar, it may be elevated a little from the floor by pieces of wood, to prevent its imbibing the moisture, and, consequently, the taint of the floor. There are but few cellars that will keep butter well through the summer. In the vicinity of a market it is best to sell it as it is manufactured, and not incur the hazard of damage by keeping it on hand. Still it must often happen that no immediate sale can be effected, and then the judgment and experience will be called into exercise, to preserve the butter from spoiling. As I have little or no experience myself, on this point, I forbear to offer advice lest I might mislead unintentionally those who might follow it. One thing only I will observe, that no matter how well the butter is made in other respects, if buttermilk is left in it, there is always a liability to become rancid and offensive. Salting will not prevent its spoiling, unless it is made so salt as hardly to be eatable. Nor will all the care you may use in packing and storing, keep it from that deterioration which is sure to arise from the latent buttermilk.

Information Wanted.

L. TUCKER, Esq.—As a subscriber to the Cultivator for some years past I would fain ask a few questions, a reply to which some one of your numerous subscribers or correspondents perhaps will furnish.

Which is the best way of steeping grass-seed? I have sowed last spring both Lucerne and Orchard Grass, but as I could not attend to it early in the season, I took the precaution to sow both with Buckwheat, thinking that the shading leaves of that plant would prevent the effects of drouth. The Lucerne has come up well, and since the Buckwheat has been removed, is growing nicely, but the orchard grass has come up very sparingly, which is owing, I suppose, to the seed not having been steeped.

Is Lucerne liable to be winter killed? If so, would it be advisable to cover with straw?

I have noticed on my young apple trees a very peculiar caterpillar, of which I would send you a specimen, but for its perishable nature. It has a greenish white body of about three-eighths of an inch in length, and carries on its back a shield of a very soft brownish velvety texture. I have never seen any of that species before, and they are certainly very peculiar. Can you furnish any name to the beauty? [The insect referred to, is, in all probability, the larva of one of the *Cassidada*. These larva are broad and oval, with a kind of fringe, composed of stiff prickles, surrounding the thin edges of the body, and a long forked tail, which serves to hold the excrement when voided; a mass of which, half as large as the insect, is often thus accumulated. The tail, with its loaded forks, is turned over the back, and thus protects it from the influence of the sun, and probably also from its enemies.]

Last fall I obtained from a seed store in New York, a peck of what was sold for Golden Australian Wheat, at the outrageous price of \$4 per bushel. It was badly winter killed, and what survived turned out two kinds of wheat. The one ripened sooner than the other (which I take to be the genuine), and rust setting in, both had to be harvested, though the Australian was yet green: consequently it is badly shrunk; but I have sowed it again nevertheless, intending to give it a fair trial in this latitude.

It is really too bad, that our seedsmen allow themselves to be imposed upon in this way, and injure their own reputation by selling an impure article for genuine, and at such a price. A. H. KUMMEL. Sharon, Wisconsin, Sept. 20, 1853.

Horticultural Department.

The Horticulturist for October.

The last number of this valuable periodical is full of interest. The frontispiece is a handsome engraving of that superb cherry, the *Gov. Wood*, colored (in the colored edition) in a style fully equal to the best French prints of this character. An excellent practical leader points out the frequent errors committed in planting new grounds, and shows that the stunted and meagre growth of grass and shrubbery results from a total neglect in the preparation of the soil—from the practice of planting *first*, and then improving the ground afterwards, which is like building first and afterwards digging the cellar and laying the foundation. Trenching by the spade in small places, or subsoiling with the plow in larger ones, accompanied with a free admixture of manure, is recommended as the best preliminary for planting, in which also perfect drainage should not be omitted. "In our own grounds," says the editor, "one portion of a small plot was trenched deeply before it was seeded, and it rejoices in the deepest verdure in all weather; another portion was not trenched, and when a month or six weeks of dry weather comes, as it did this season, it turns as brown as sole-leather." We often witness the error pointed out in this article, of expending thousands freely in building a house, and a single hundred grudgingly in planting and in gardens.

Preservation of Fruits. Several pages are devoted to quotations from foreign writers on this subject, and the importance of learning more, practically, in relation to it, is urged upon the attention of commercial fruit raisers, now that much capital is becoming invested in orchards. The quotation from Prof. DUBRIEL, on the subject of the *degree of maturity* at which fruits should be gathered, although correct in the main, cannot be so in all its details, and especially where it is stated that "all stone fruits, except cherries, should be taken from the tree three or four days before their absolute maturity." The finest mottled, ruddy cheeked *peaches*, that have fully ripened on the tree, are incomparably better than those which have lain four days within doors to soften.

The Ott Pear. This new variety, which at Philadelphia is esteemed as the best flavored summer pear, is figured and described from specimens grown at Rochester. The editor says "it proves to be a very fair and excellent fruit, ranking with the best summer pears—the flesh rather coarse, melting, rich, and perfumed, with somewhat of the flavor of the Seckel—will, we think, be a generally esteemed amateurs' pear, but will be found too small for our markets generally."

Early Tillotson Peach. A North Carolina correspondent states that the Early-Tillotson ripened with him two days before the Serrate Early York, or July 18th, and that it fully sustains its high reputation. On another page we are informed that in a large orchard between Rochester and Lake Ontario, it has proved a total failure. In most places, however, in western New-York, where we have seen this peach in bearing, it has succeeded finely, and proved the highest flavored variety of its season. On our own trees, *kept well shortened back*, the fruit is often a crimson globe two inches in diameter, but the tree must be fully exposed to the sun. Throughout several of the southern states it has been uniformly reported as of great excellence, and we have no doubt will prove so through the rest. At the north, it can never become popular, not only because it is hard to raise in the nursery, and the nurserymen consequently dislike it; but also on account of the frequent mildewed fruit under ordinary management.

The Nimrod Strawberry, is reported in the foreign notices, on the authority of the *Gardener's Chronicle* as superior to the *British Queen*, of the same color, but sweeter and richer, and that it is said to be hardier, and an excellent bearer. Its hardness would recommend it for trial in this country.

The Curculio—its Habits and Ravages.

[The following, long as it is, will be read with interest by all who have suffered by the ravages of the curculio. It is a more accurate notice of the peculiar characteristics of this enemy of the plum, than we have heretofore seen.]

The Curculio is just now a subject of especial interest to all fruit cultivators. Many of our horticultural friends seem utterly despairing in reference to his depredations. Others continue hopeful, in full confidence that the nostrum last discovered is sure to gain the mastery over him, notwithstanding the entire failure of the ninety-nine other certain "remedies" and "preventives," which have been successively tried. If it will not be inflicting too much upon your readers, I too, have my notions to offer in regard to his Turkship.

The habits of the Curculio are yet but partially understood. Even our most carefully observant entomologists are not fully acquainted with him. How the insect travels is an especial mystery. It is well known that it has the ability to fly, yet it uses its wings so seldom as to induce the belief by many that it never flies; and probably not in one case in a hundred, or perhaps a thousand, will it use its wings to escape capture. If, however, the insect be dropped from a little height during the warm sunny part of the day, it will be found that it seldom reaches the ground—having spread its wings during the fall. My own belief is, that its locomotion is accomplished mainly or wholly upon its wings for moderate distances only, guided by its instincts toward such fruits as suit its tastes.

The *modus operandi* of the Curculio in puncturing the fruit and laying its eggs, has never been correctly understood. I claim the discovery of the insect's habits in this particular.

None but a careful, close observer, will succeed even in getting a sight of the insect; and many cultivators of fruit, though they have frequently heard of Curculio by name, and are familiar with the destructive effects of his operations, have still no personal acquaintance with the Turk. Well, then, let such as are desirous of making his acquaintance, take a position under a plum or apricot tree on any calm pleasant afternoon in the latter part of May. After first having observed the peculiar crescent cut on the young, fruit indicating the presence of the devastator, survey carefully each individual fruit on some branch. Your eye will probably soon be arrested by a dark brownish object, say three-sixteenths of an inch long, resembling a withered flower bud of the tree, and so closely resembling it as, by the unpracticed, to be passed over as such withered bud. But watch it a little longer and a little closer; you will probably find that it is curculio himself. Take hold of the branch and hold it nearer to your view—there he is sure enough; at his deadly work—sober and deliberate; he makes no hasty movement, but quietly and steadily proceeds with his work, (or rather with *her* work, for the operator is a female,) apparently unconscious of your presence. Watch closely the process of the work, and you will see that first the insect forces its proboscis gently, yet steadily, *into* the fruit perhaps the twentieth part of an inch, making a round hole about as large as would be made by a fair sized pin; it then turns round, and, placing its posterior extremity over the puncture, remains in that position from one to two minutes, during which time an egg is deposited. The insect then turns round again and forces the egg into the hole with its proboscis. It then commences slightly at one side of the previous puncture, and cuts, a little deeper than before, the peculiar crescent cut which is the mark characteristic of the insect, and the only one afterwards obvious. This crescent mark is cut so as to place the curve partly around the puncture in which the egg is deposited, so as to place the egg midway in the arc of the circle formed by the curve, and about one-half its radius from it. It is also cut in a direction slanting just under the point occupied by the egg. The whole operation occupies from five to ten minutes. If the observer

will, with a pointed knife or his thumb nail, remove the small lip-like piece of the skin and flesh of the plum formed by this cut, any time within three or four days after it is made, he will remove the insect's egg and save the fruit. The egg may not be readily discovered, but on opening carefully the little piece of the plum removed, it will be found—a whitish minute affair about the size of an onion seed. If left from five to seven days it hatches, producing a small whitish worm, which makes its way with astonishing rapidity to the centre of the fruit, around the stone, or through it if soft, destroying its vitality. The fruit consequently detaches from the tree and falls to the ground; the worm then emerges, takes to the earth, where it goes through its transformations from larvae to pupa, and from that to the perfect insect, armed and equipped for the work of destruction like its parent. Downing states the egg to be invisible, which arises, doubtless, from the common impression that it is deposited at the bottom of the crescent puncture, which, as we have seen above, is not the fact. It is invisible, because not looked for where it actually is; and herein is seen the wonderful instinct with which the insect is endowed. If the egg were deposited at the bottom of the crescent cut, the growth of the fruit, and the partial drying of the part inside the circumference of the cut, would draw away that part and open the cut so as to throw out the egg, and thus defeat the object of the insect, viz: the propagation of its species and the sustenance of the young larvae when hatched. Instead of this, the egg is deposited in the previous puncture as before stated, which is afterwards cut round, and partially under, leaving the egg in the little lip formed thereby, which, by the after-growth of the fruit, draws away from the wound, retaining the egg firmly in its place.

I am of the opinion that no remedy is effectual to deter the curculio from its destructive work, short of extermination. He seems to laugh at all attempts to *drive* him off by nauseous smells, or to trap him by such contrivances as tar, cotton, &c. Lime, ashes, plaster, sulphur, &c., he will not deign to turn up his nose at. A vigorous war of extermination—carrying the battle into the enemy's camp and showing him no quarter when you have him at advantage, is, in my judgment, the only course which will avail to save our fair crops of apricots, plums and nectarines, and eventually, very likely, our cherries, peaches, apples, pears, &c. Nothing yet seems to accomplish the work so well as jarring the trees, catching the Turks as they fall in sheets or cloths spread for the purpose, and executing the death penalty upon the captives by the most summary process.

During the past summer I have studied somewhat the habits of the curculio, and have experimented considerably with him. The insect is exceedingly tenacious of life. I have placed half a dozen of them in a small glass phial corked tight so as to exclude air, and without food of any sort, for three days, at the end of which time I put in a green apricot, when they went to work puncturing and laying their eggs. The same insects lived in the bottle over a week, without air only occasionally as the bottle was unstopped to examine them.

I placed half a dozen of the rascals in a bottle with enough sublimated sulphur nearly to envelop them; they stood it three days, when I concluded they wanted air, uncorked the bottle, standing it upright, and placed the cork upside down over the mouth at night, in such a manner that they must lift the weight of the cork while climbing up the smooth neck of the bottle before escaping, which I judged they could not do. The scamps tumbled off the cork and had vacated their sulphurous tenement before morning. While in durance, I also tried them with a green apricot, which they attacked with as much composure, after its being rolled in sulphur, as if fresh on the tree. The same process exactly of puncturing, then laying the egg, crowding it in, and then cutting round it, was pursued as when the fruit is on the tree.

A half dozen were also placed in a bottle with sufficient very pungent snuff nearly to envelop them, and the bottle corked tight; making an atmosphere that no snuff-taker could stand for half an hour. They stood it three days, when they "gin out."

The insect has seemed with me to show a marked preference for the apricot over any other fruit. Plums and nectarines are treated with comparative neglect, when sufficient apricots offer.

I find that violent jarring the apricot is apt to knock off some of the finest fruit, owing to its short stem and fixed position. The plum, owing to its flexible stem, does not suffer in this way.

From present experience, I come to the following conclusions regarding the curculio:

1. All remedies or preventives short of actual slaughter, will prove ineffectual to check its depredations. I have tried pretty thoroughly for years, nearly all the nostrums recommended by various horticultural writers in the hope of being able to find some *patent medicine* remedy, but so far entirely in vain; and what prospect the future offers of success in this direction, may be judged of by the experience herein narrated.

2. Such applications as white wash (with or without sulphur), powdered lime, ashes, plaster, cotton about the trunks of trees, tar, nauseous smells of fermenting manures, &c., &c., *ad infinitum*, may give hopes of success, from the fact that most of these applications impede the facility of the insect's operations, and it will pass over trees to which these applications are made, *provided* there is in the immediate neighborhood sufficient fruit for it to expend its incubating energy upon, which has not been treated to any of these applications. But if the insect is very abundant; or if *all* your fruit and that of your neighbors be treated to these applications, my own experience inclines me to the belief they will not, any or all of them, sensibly check its destructive work. I was among the first to try and recommend the use of white wash, and with apparent success at first—syrring a few trees and leaving the others to the Turk's mercy. But subsequent experiments impress me with the belief that no confidence whatever can be placed upon it. Indeed I have found the curculio in trees so treated, himself covered with white-wash, at work on fruit coated in the same manner, with all the composure and equanimity imaginable. In fact his Turkish is a connoisseur of tender and smooth skinned fruits. He takes *first* those that best suit his purpose, leaving those less desirable till after—in the same manner as peaches on account of their rough skin, and the courser plums are neglected until all the apricots, nectarines and finer plums are punctured; but these are sure to be taken in their due order, provided there are not enough of the fruits he most delights in to serve his purpose. In my judgment they are left *simply because* the coating of whitewash or other application, and the downy surface of the peach, render the puncturing process less easy to the insect, and not from any quality which repels him.

3. From the foregoing will be seen the importance of all cultivators of stone fruits taking active and simultaneous measures to *destroy the insect*; and thus so lessen their numbers, as, by annual watchfulness, that our finer stone fruits may not become a subject of historic record only. The Turk is increasing upon us rapidly. But few years since in the neighborhood of Albany, the plum and other stone fruits were thought proof against him. Now, without the utmost care and daily attention, he takes *all*. I have succeeded this year for the first time in three or four, in saving a full crop of Apricots, Plums and Nectarines, by daily jarring the trees in the early morning with a sheet spread under them, and killing the insects that fall. This, kept up daily for about two weeks of the last of May and early June, was found so to thin the enemy's ranks that hardly one could be found. Some four hundred of them suffered death in this way in my garden—a moderate sized city one, the past season. This, though an old fashioned matter-of-fact process, which I had been loth to

adopt before in the hope of discovering some *alchymic application* to destroy or repel the scamp, I am now satisfied is the only course. All others so far, suggested in any quarter, are utterly hopeless; unless it be hogs and hens, in which I have some faith, and which are but another process for accomplishing the same end; but which are impracticable in most cases, and wholly so in all city gardens. Paving too, even if effectual, is equally impracticable on anything like an extended scale, and though it may deter the insect from attacking the trees which are paved under, does not lessen its numbers.

My friend FAHNESTOCK of Syracuse, I notice has great confidence in the discovery of the Hon. JAMES MATTHEWS of Coshocton, Ohio, as affording a remedy, *patent-medicine-wise*. Of the efficacy of this, as I am not let into the secret, I am unable to judge. That it *may* prove effectual and practicable, is most sincerely to be wished. That it *will* do so, is with me—one of the doubters—hardly to be hoped. But to hasten the denouement of the secret, I hereby offer the discoverer a premium of ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS for the discovery, provided it be found practicable, and cheap in its application, as compared with the expense of jarring and catching the insects; and effective from a single application annually—to be decided by a competent committee of the Albany and Rensselaer Horticultural Society, after a test of three years. The discovery then to be published free to the world. C. P. WILLIAMS. Albany, Oct. 1853.

Cincinnati Horticultural Society.

This flourishing society held its annual exhibition on the 21st, 22nd, and 23rd of September, which proved a complete triumph. It was agreed on all hands that this was by far the best exhibition that has ever been held in the west; and it speaks well of the skill and taste that is brought to bear on this refining and delightful pursuit around our Queen city; and that it is duly appreciated by her citizens, is abundantly proven by the way in which they flock thither, both morning, afternoon, and evening.

To attempt to enter into detail of the extensive and varied products exhibited, would take up far too much of your space. I shall therefore confine myself to its leading features of interest and attraction.

The spacious hall itself was handsomely decorated with evergreen wreaths, gracefully suspended in various directions, and wound spirally round the columns, all done by the hands of the fair daughters of Cincinnati. But the great centre of attraction was the far-famed and noble lilly, the *Victoria Regina*—the first plant and the first flower of this noble aquatic ever grown west of the mountains, the honor of which is due to Mr. JOHN SAYERS, to whom great praise is also due for his exertions in procuring and growing this vegetable wonder. A large basin, ten feet in diameter, was prepared to receive it, and two of its enormous leaves placed floating on the water, one of which measured 6 feet 3 inches in diameter, the largest on record. The fine flower was burst open prematurely in order to gratify public curiosity; consequently it was not so large as it would otherwise have been. A special premium of \$50, was awarded for it.

The collections of plants were very extensive, choice, and in excellent condition, there being several very large contributors of Stove and Green-house plants, Roses, Verbenas, Petunias, &c. Cut flowers, consisting of Roses, Verbenas, Dahlias, &c., were also there in profuse abundance—the latter in much better condition than was at one time expected.

But the fruits—they were indeed magnificent. Two long tables, running the whole length of the hall, filled with the finest samples of the best kinds of fruits. The display of apples was exceedingly fine; so also was native grapes. Of vegetables there was a very meagre display, owing probably to the dryness of the season.

Among the more noticeable things, were an immense *Cornucopia*, suspended over the door as you entered, pouring out its rich treasures—a model design of Orna-

mental Grounds, by J. & I. JACKSON—a model of a Geometric Flower Garden, called the "True Lover's Knot," and planted to represent the massing system, by F. PENTLAND, gr. to N. Longworth, Esq. This attracted a good deal of attention. A pair of models of ornamental Buildings, which were very pretty, by HEVER, RICE & Co.—a handsome pair of Grass Bouquets, two feet high and 18 inches through, from the Misses ORANGE—four splendid rustic tubs, from E. KELLY & F. PENTLAND—a black Hamburg Grape in pot, having 5 bunches of more than average size on it, from C. SANDERS, gr. to J. Longworth, Esq.; also some very large Beets and Mangel Wurzel, from the same—three immense Egg Plants from Mr. MUNN, Louisville, and many other very good things.

Altogether this has been one of the most successful and satisfactory exhibitions, both to the public and the members, ever held in this city. C. S. Cincinnati, Sept. 23, 1853.

Strawberries.

In reply to K. Norris' question, in your October number, asking the name of some productive large fruited strawberry "that will hull in picking," I name the Hudson as precisely what he desires. There are five or six other varieties which have the same properties, but I do not recall their names positively. I think, however, that the Moyamensing Pine, Triumph, and Cornucopia, are among the number. WM. R. PRINCE. Flushing, Oct. 3, 1853.

Hardiness of Apple Trees.

In Wisconsin and other portions of the north-west, it is well known that young apple trees, and sometimes older ones, are liable to disaster from the peculiarities of the soil and climate, more especially if not grafted or worked at the surface of the earth. The following list of the different sorts in cultivation there, and the results of the experiments made upon their hardiness, are given by F. K. PHOENIX, of Walworth county, in that State:

"Varieties, which though they may sometimes succeed when root grafted, have proved with us tender and untrusty on the root.—Baldwin, Esopus, Spitzenburg, Roxbury Russet, Hubbardston Nonsuch, Rambo, Bullock's Pippin (or American Golden Russet), Maiden's Blush, Jersey Sweet, R. I. Greening, Spice Sweet, Brabant Bellflower.

"Varieties that are rather tender the first year or two, but afterwards pretty safe on the root.—Early Harvest, Golden Sweet, Fall Pippin, Vanderverre, Pomme Gris, Drap D'Or, Winter Pearmain, Carthouse, (or Red Romanite), Northern Spy.

"Hardy sorts.—Red Astracan, Sops of Wine, Duchess of Oldenburg, Early Red, Harvest Red Streak, Carolina June, Fall Orange, Hoss Apple, Monstrous Pippin, St. Lawrence, Autumn Strawberry, Autumn Swaar, Bailey or Edgerly Sweet, Pound Sweet, Fall Wine, Yellow Bellflower, Flushing-Spitzenburg, Domine, Pregor Red, Rawley's Jannet, English Golden Russet, Blue Pearmain, Perry Russet, Seek-no-further (Westfield), Talman Sweet, Wine-sap."

Heading Cabbages in the Winter.

A friend and correspondent complains to us, that his cabbages do not manifest any disposition to form close and compact heads, and inquires what he shall do with them.

We would advise him to let them stand the usual time, and if they are not sufficiently formed then, to give them a chance to head during the winter, by adopting the following plan:—

Dig a trench on the side of a hill, say a foot wide, and two deep. Let it slope down hill sufficiently to drain off any water that may chance to find its way in.

Put a layer of straw on the bottom. Pull the cabbages up by the roots, close the leaves together, and place them in the trench, head down, and roots up. Place some straw between them and the sides of the trench. Then take a couple of boards and set them over the trench so as to form a roof, and cover the whole over with earth. In this way we have caused cabbages to form good heads during the winter, and take them out for use in the spring. By putting them down roots up, you prevent any dirt from getting in among the leaves. If the water gets in and stands among them, they will be in danger of rotting.—Maine Farmer.

VINEYARDS IN CALIFORNIA.—In Los Angeles county are 105 vineyards, containing 450,000 vines, each of which produces, on an average, five pounds of fruit. The grapes are of the most delicious quality.

The Fireside.

The Funeral of a German Student.

TODAY I attended the funeral of a German Student, a member of the University. It was quite a novel sight to our American eyes. The news of his death had reached us a day or two before, and this morning we heard that he was to be borne to his grave. Crowds of people were collected in front of his lodgings, as if expecting some great display. First there was the hearse, unlike those black wooden boxes one sees in our country; it was much larger, and there was no cover over it; somewhat like a platform on wheels; on this the coffin lay exposed, only covered by a black velvet pall with white silk fringe. On the middle of the coffin were laid his sword and corps-cap, the tokens of his society and its honors. On the head of the coffin were laid friendly wreaths of ivy and everlasting flowers. The hearse was drawn by four white horses with plumes, and in front of these, with slow and solemn step, clad in the "habiliments of woe," walked a tall female, veiled to her feet, the public mourner, whose duty it is to attend upon the preparation of the corpse and marshal its way to the tomb. After the hearse came one coach in which the officiating priest rode alone; then a long procession, two and two, mostly composed of students, nearly two hundred in number, with their society caps, swords, badges, insignia, &c., headed by a band of music playing a slow dead-march. The long procession moved slowly through the narrow streets, out the western gate toward the burying-ground, or "God's acre," as is the literal translation of their word for it; and then when they had come to the newly-made grave, all standing around bare-headed in the gathering twilight, the priest made a few remarks touching the life and character of the dead, a short prayer, and then quite a lengthy sermon to the living, standing thus on the brink of his grave, and then slowly, as the chant of the dead was sung by his comrades, the coffin was lowered to its last resting-place, while the band played softly a sad and melancholy dirge. The father, old and gray-haired, with trembling step, moved forward and cast one handful of earth upon the coffin, and the crowd departed from the ground, forming again at the gate in procession, headed by the band, which now struck up a series of lively airs, waltzes, polkas, redowas, quick marches, &c., in loud and lively tones, and to its music they marched again into town, on through the crooked streets to the Aula, or Senate-hall of the University, formed then a large semi-circle about the statue of George the Fourth, the founder of the university, which stands in the centre of the large square, and all joined in the first verse of the "Gaudeamus," which runs thus:—

*Gaudeamus igitur juvenes dum sumus,
Post jucundum juventutem;
Post molestam senectutem,
Nos abibit humus,*

The translation of which is: Let us rejoice while we are young; for after the pleasures of youth, after the troubles of old age, we all shall be laid beneath the earth. It was sung slowly and sadly, and the gray old walls of the University buildings echoed and re-echoed the solemn sounds poured forth by such a multitude of manly voices in unison, under the broad canopy of heaven, to commemorate the departure of one of their number, and as the last sounds died away in silence, each took his departure to his home again; and alone in the still night air stood the stern bronze statue in the middle of the plaza, cold and immovable as the dead in yonder grave. F. E. D.

NEWPORT IN AUGUST.—Given—a large house, music, piazzas, beaches, cliff, port, griddle-cakes, fast horses, sherry-cobblers, ten-pins, dust, artificial flowers, innocence, worn-out hearts, loveliness, black-legs, bank-bills, small men, large coat-sleeves, little boots, jewelry and polka redowas *ad libitum*, to produce August in Newport.—*Putnam's Magazine.*

Scraps from a Naturalist's Note Book.

THE AMERICAN HOLLY—*Ilex opaca* of Aiton. Perhaps there are but few plants that assist in rendering to the wood and forest scenery of our country more beauty, and peculiar usefulness, than this small tree. Though generally small in size, it sometimes, in favorable situations, is found to attain to some considerable magnitude, and even to a great height. With us it grows not profusely, but may not unfrequently be met with growing on open grounds, in light woods, and in dry sandy or stony soils, easily to be recognised by its peculiar pyramidal form, its brilliant evergreen foliage and the singular appearance of its leaves; and in the fall and winter seasons, by the light scarlet color of its berries. Its erect trunk is clothed with a smooth bark, of an ashen grey color, much resembling that of the beech, but somewhat lighter. On the older trees, it is usually overspread with variously colored lichens, which often give to it a very picturesque and beautiful appearance. The branches are nearly horizontal, and the recent shoots are of a yellowish or olive grey color, covered by a slight downy powder, which afterward becomes of a clear gray. It is most generally to be found growing in company with the tupelo, the black oak, the red maple, the yellow birch, and the cedar.

The leaves are beautifully arranged, and most singularly formed, which last circumstance adds greatly to the interest of its foliage. They are evergreen, and connected to the smaller branches by short foot-stalks and are ovally oblong in shape, acute at both ends or somewhat angular at the base with several large teeth, each one terminating with a rigid spine; they are of a leathery texture, smooth and of a shining appearance above, and paler, or of a yellowish green color, with bright green veins beneath; at their base, particularly when recent, are placed a pair of awl-formed brownish stipules.

The flowers are white, though not conspicuous; these are succeeded by numerous beautiful red berries, which remain attached to the branches long after the severities of the winter have taken place. It is this circumstance in connection with that of its retaining the bright green leaves through the year, which renders this tree so interesting an object to behold during the dreariness of that season. Its leaves are seldom touched by an insect.

It is on these accounts that the American holly is so highly deserving of cultivation as an ornamental tree. It greatly resembles in appearance the holly of Europe, which makes more durable hedge than any other tree, and when once established, is easily kept in repair at a much less expense, the only objection being the slowness of its growth. It is propagated by either the seeds or plants taken from the woods, the former of which, however, do not germinate for more than a year after sowing; they are in consequence kept in moist earth for a year after gathering, at which time they are to be sown at the depth of a quarter of an inch in a fine soil.

The wood of the tree is heavy and compact, containing a white alburnum and brown heart. Its grain is fine and compact, hence it is very brilliant when polished. Its principal use is for inlaying mahogany furniture, and the black lines with which cabinet-makers sometimes adorn their work are of holly dyed in the coppers of the hatter. When perfectly dry, this wood is very hard and unyielding, hence it may be applied to many highly useful purposes.

THE COMMON HOUSE SPIDER—*Epeira diadema* of Linnaeus. Our spiders are beginning to feel the chilling influences of the weather, and may not unfrequently be met with crawling away to the angles of ceilings for the purpose of depositing their eggs. These they cover with a loose white silken web, which effectually protects them through the severities of the approaching winter, until they become hatched in the succeeding spring.

It is a well known fact, that these animals are not possessed of suction feet, like the fly, consequently they are unable to counteract gravity, by walking upon walls and ceilings, without the aid of their webs. In accomplishing this feat, it is curious to observe the careful manner in which they proceed, and the precautions their admirable instinct suggests for their protection. A few days since we were considerably amused by witnessing one of them perseveringly making his way, along an ordinary white washed ceiling, the irregularities of which, enabling him to attach his claws. He appeared to proceed with the greatest caution; previously to each step, carefully testing, if its claws had taken a sufficient hold to support its weight, and when in the least doubtful, it was seen that he firmly cemented to the irregularities of the surface a small mass of web. To this he attached a line, so that whenever he fell, which was not unfrequently, it was only for a few inches, the line soon enabling him to regain his former position. It was in this manner that he was enabled to proceed, slowly and safely along. J. E. October 6.

Correspondence of the Country Gentleman.

LOUISVILLE, KY., Sept. 22, 1853.

DEAR WARREN—On my way down the river from Cincinnati, I could not perceive many indications of improvement during the three years that have intervened since I last went over the same route. It is true that as much progress, both in wealth and in taste, had been made as in most parts of New-England within the same length of time; but after witnessing the almost magical growth and improvement of other portions of the west, I have come to consider *slow* all places that do not keep up with this railroad speed.

Lawrenceburgh, the county-seat of Dearborn county, Indiana, contains between three and four thousand inhabitants, and has some fine residences upon the surrounding hills, but the main part of the town is so low as to be liable to inundation during extreme high water. As the Whitewater Valley Canal, from Cambridge, seventy-six miles in the interior of Indiana, terminates here after traversing some of the most fertile lands in the world, and also affords a most fine water power, I had hoped this place would look new and thriving, but such is not the fact.

As the same cause has cast a blight upon other places along the river shore, between Cincinnati and Louisville, I perhaps cannot do better than present the fact at once, and the cause, and then shall hereafter only need to allude to the condition of affairs.

As a party were riding in the stage coach through a portion of Ohio and Indiana, an eastern man in an unusual inquisitive mood inquired of one who appeared to be a *native*, in regard to the agricultural productions, and of course was entertained with some rather tall *corn* stories. After having narrated to him the length of the stalks, the number of bushels produced to the acre, and the number of acres under cultivation, he naturally enough inquired as to what was done with such vast amounts of the golden grain. Hoosier, who was apparently strongly under *spirital* influence, with great gravity replied: "The most of it is made into whiskey, but a part of it is wasted by being fed to the hogs, or by being made into bread."

At Lawrenceburgh, where one hundred and fifty barrels of whiskey are made daily, but as to the number of hogs or beeves that are poisoned by still-slops, or the number of families ruined by this whiskey, I am not able to give any information. Aurora, a little below, instead of appearing to be the "fair daughter of morn," as sung by the poet, is the prolific mother of nearly as large an amount of whiskey. Here are slaughtered from ten to twenty thousand hogs annually. Rising Sun, nine miles below, in point of beauty outshines Aurora, and here, too, the spirit moves, doubtless causing a jolly amount of table turning, and tending to put its votaries in more immediate communication with the inhabitants of other spheres; yet it is to be feared the most who are favored with this kind of

spiritual visitation will descend to *lower*, in place of ascending to higher spheres.

Vevay, the county-seat of Switzerland county, has not greatly changed since I last visited it, yet the Swiss who settled here so long ago as 1804, may well be commended for their steady industrious and *sobber* habits. Here is demonstrative evidence that good pure *wine*, even when made in abundance and freely used, is not as destructive to habits of sobriety as hot corn whiskey. The Swiss do not mingle much with any but those of their own nation, and have not the restlessness of Yankees, but quietly cultivate the Cape grape, accumulate money, and when arrived at a good old age, as quietly pass into the grave.

Madison is a fine compactly built town at the river terminus of a railroad from Indianapolis, and is a place of decided activity and business. I judge there must be from ten to twelve thousand inhabitants in this beautiful little city, and the present prospect is greatly in favor of the increased growth and improvement of it. From that place to Louisville I traveled in the night, and therefore cannot tell any thing in regard to the intervening villages. On the Kentucky side I was not able to discover any village or settlement of any account, and there was but one hopeful indication to be seen. A railroad has been located between Covington, opposite Cincinnati, and Louisville, and a part of it finished, and although its progress is against the wishes of those residing on the line, I think the steam whistle *must* wake up the slumbering ones, and for once at least, make them open their eyes to the progress the rest of the world is making.

Your readers are aware that the *village* of Louisville, contains between fifty and sixty thousand inhabitants, and that it is situated at the head of the Falls of the Ohio; but perhaps they are not all aware of some of the peculiar features of the city. The place is emphatically a *business* place, nearly every street being bordered with shops, some of them very large, and filled with most varieties of merchandise. This business, however, does not tend to make the place either cleanly or beautiful. In many places the sidewalks, for a long distance, are almost completely covered with boxes, barrels, bales and packages, and the streets are filled with drays, or with old fashioned baggage wagons, having attached to them four, six, or eight horses or mules, or more commonly a mixture of each. It is usual for the drays to be drawn with two animals, a mule in the shafts and a horse on the lead; and although the poor mule gives conclusive evidence in looks and bearing, that he is treated as an *inferior* to the horse, yet I cannot but conclude, if he was treated as kindly and fed and governed with as much care as his illustrious predecessor, he would show as much spirit and intelligence, and certainly greater powers of endurance. Unfortunately for poor muley, his father and grandfather, for many generations, have been of a degraded race, and have suffered from indignities and abuse sufficient to have destroyed less noble animals; while his maternal ancestors have mostly been such animals as were supposed incapable of bringing into existence any other offspring of the least value. With such parentage, and such treatment, well may we wonder that the mule is of any value, or possessed of any redeeming traits in his character; yet there are those here as large, as well made, as intelligent, and, excepting his auriculars, as handsome as any horse. I always had a liking, perhaps a *fellow-feeling*, for the mule, and since I have here renewed my acquaintance with him, my liking has increased, and he has wrought deeply on my sympathies.

I am confident that no animal is more perfectly adapted for most agricultural purposes, or will be found more profitable than the mule; yet the experiment should not be tried with *inferior* specimens like the most of them, but with those of good origin, and such as have been carefully reared and kindly treated. The world is getting to learn that kindness and care,

bestowed even upon the lower animals, *pays* far better than abuse and neglect. I do not know where these mules are reared, and as I have seen none of the paternal ancestors of the race, I cannot tell what race they are of, yet from the specimens abounding in the city, I am confident there is as much difference among them in that regard as among the *human* population.

Among the *whites*, there appears to be a greater diversity than in any northern city. Those of German origin are apparently more degraded than any whites in New-England. They are stolid in their looks, slow and stupid in their motions, beastly in their habits, and dirty and ragged in their dress, having apparently no pride of personal appearance, no desire for mental or moral growth, and no desire except to gratify their appetite for tobacco and whiskey, and by low cunning and finesse in trade, to accumulate money. Of course this description, while it is true of the majority of this class, admits of many exceptions; and is not wholly confined to those of German or other foreign origin. The *hard-shells* of Kentucky, are a *peculiar* race, yet composed of many original elements, and their influence to a certain extent is felt in all circles. The virtue which is next to godliness—*cleanliness*, is less practiced here than in any place I have visited. I have already spoken of the streets—they are always filthy, almost as a matter of course, and all the places of business, offices and shops that I have visited, and I have visited many, can boast of the same fashionable and easy *neglige* appearance. Although the Kentuckians are *National* in their political opinions, in their habits they are decidedly *Free-soil*, and a little too much so for my taste. Yours, C.

Correspondence of the Country Gentleman.

GREAT BARRINGTON, MASS., Sept. 30, 1853.

MESSRS. EDITORS—I date from the village of Great Barrington, and when I say that it is one of the pleasantest spots of all this pleasant mountain land, those who know anything personally of Berkshire county, will well understand that I cannot pay a higher tribute to its beauty. The village is situated on a rise of land that swells up from the flats of the Housatonic, and is neatly built on either side of a long street, or rather avenue, for it is lined and shaded by a growth of noble old elms, some of which must have been silently rooting themselves here for centuries. In the full bloom of summer, and from a little distance, the village seems completely embowered in foliage, with a faint glimmer from the white sides of houses, and brown roofs peeping out here and there. Southerly, Mount Washington looms up, blue with distance, almost alone in its glory, and to the north Monument Mountain keeps watch and ward over a multitude of hills, nameless, but fully grown and shaggy with rocks, with beautiful slopes and vallies between, and the rapid flowing Housatonic, with its broad fertile meadows speaking eloquently of abundant rewards for the toil of the husbandman. The whole landscape is by a master artist, and worthily framed with these huge hills.

But I had not taken the pen to rhapsodize on Berkshire scenery—though I cannot forbear a little enthusiasm whenever the name is written or told—but to give you a brief account of the days we have just passed—the *dies dierum*—the great days of this part of the world, the *cattle show*.

The first day, Wednesday, was devoted to the exhibition of stock and articles of home growth or manufacture. The show ground of the stock was a pleasant grove just without the village, and notwithstanding the misfortune of a rainy day, the pens were well filled with a goodly array of animals. There was no show of monsters, no huge oxen of incredible weight, with sides dropping fatness, but plenty of well fed, sleek, comfortable looking cattle and stock. I noticed some fine horses, than which it would be difficult to find finer elsewhere.

The department of manufactures and domestic products in the town hall, for some cause, perhaps the in-

clemency of the weather, was not well patronized, though there were many articles worthy of mention, if space would allow. There were some pieces of furniture, as flower stands, brackets, &c., wrought in leather by fair hands, which were very tasty and well executed.

But perhaps the most attractive show, considering the rain, was of fruits and vegetables in the school-house hall. The room was tastefully, though not profusely, decorated with flowers, and filled with a mouth-watering array of fruits from the air above and the earth beneath, monster beets and potatoes, corn ripe and golden, apples, peaches, plums, grapes, melons of all sorts and colors, white, yellow, green, purple, and blushing red. It was a sore trial for one's honesty, to look and taste not.

Thursday morning opened with the plowing match. A fine meadow near the village was devoted to this object, and twenty-two teams entered the field as competitors for the prizes. The day was clear but cold, and the lists were surrounded by a shivering crowd, eager to note the exploits of the knights of the plow. The strife was gallantly waged. There was some first rate plowing, and the prizes were well deserved.

After the match an appropriate address was delivered in the church by the Hon. HENRY L. DAWES, of North Adams. The reading of reports was enlivened by some excellent singing and followed by a feast of good things.

I must not fail to notice one object of interest to the farmers here, viz, a model barn which is being erected by Mr. LEAVITT, upon his place about a mile from this village. Its dimensions are over 200 feet in length by 50 in width, and 70 feet high in the centre. The expense when completed will be over \$20,000, and it is really a wonder for the skill with which the natural advantages are turned to account. A fine stream of water which flows through it will be used to drive all the machinery which can possibly be connected with a farmery; and there is hardly a task which mute labor can accomplish which will not be effected here by this agency. Some lovers of the old, wag their heads wisely when the "great folly" is mentioned, but it reflects the highest credit on the liberality of the proprietor, and the skill of Mr. Wilkinson, the gentlemanly manager.

PITTSFIELD, MASS., Oct. 1, 1853.

The cattle show had ended, and I wended my way up the Piedmont of America—Berkshire. The next village above Great Barrington is Stockbridge. It is a beautiful village, situated on an intervalle of the Housatonic and environed by green clad hills. Here it was that the celebrated divine, Edwards, labored, and here has always been the haunt of literary genius.

From Stockbridge I followed the Housatonic to South Lee. The scenery is exquisitely beautiful all the way. I thought it very much resembled that on the banks of the Rhine, so often and so admirably described by travelers. On the right side of the river a mountain rises abruptly several thousand feet, while on the left are smaller hills covered with groves. South Lee is situated in a pretty dingle and is chiefly a manufacturing village.

Next above South Lee is Lee, long noted for its paper mills. The scenery around it is not as wild and romantic as that about South Lee or Stockbridge. However, it is not without interest.

The road leading from Lee to Pittsfield is through a romantic valley. The Housatonic runs along the roadside, sometimes rapidly tumbling and then silently meandering beneath the drooping branches of the forest trees. Away upon the adjacent hills may occasionally be seen a neat white farm-house and its accompanying out-houses, and the cattle peacefully grazing on the surrounding meadows.

Assuredly this is an inviting section for the tourist. Wearied with the cares of business and the turmoil of city life, I have found rest and recreation in the valleys of Berkshire. L.



Rustic Flower Stands.

We have had occasion heretofore to remark on the frequent violation of good taste at our horticultural exhibitions, by forming solid, or apparently permanent structures out of flowers, that is, using flowers as the *building material*, in the same way that stone, brick, and timber are used for common erections. A moment's reflection will show that this is all wrong, for flowers are, of all things, the most strictly *decorative*, and decorative only; hence the flagrant inconsistency of building a massive wall out of ornaments. A Corinthian column, lightly and sparingly wreathed, becomes a beautiful object; but to attempt to build the massive portion of such a column of roses, would be extremely out of taste, because there would be a glaring unfitness of material. Hence the formation of temples, alcoves, human figures, or even baskets, of flowers, is decidedly improper, although temples and baskets may very fitly be ornamented with them. A basket handle merely, made wholly of flowers, is for the same reason objectionable; but if decorated with a wreath, it may become a beautiful object.

Large stands of flowers, to be placed in conspicuous positions at exhibitions, contribute greatly to their attractions, and nothing can have a more agreeable effect than a tasteful combination of flowers and neat rustic work. The accompanying engraving shows one of the best arrangements of the kind that we have met with. The larger or principle stand is supposed to be about four feet high, and is executed with halved branches of trees with the bark on, in accordance with

the usual and well known method for such structures. The flowers which it contains, are carefully and symmetrically arranged, with enough of the looseness and freedom of nature, to conceal the art which has been employed in their arrangement, and to prevent that appearance of compactness and stiffness too often seen in pyramids and bouquets of plainly elaborate construction. The perfection of beauty is seen where ingenious groupings have been studied in order to produce the most agreeable effect, but where the art which has been employed is *concealed from the eye of the spectator*, of which the great field of nature is continually affording innumerable instances.

Rural Scenes and Customs in the South of England.

Some of the early years of my life were spent in a secluded village in Wiltshire, not very many miles from Salisbury Plain. It was a lovely spot. Rich meadow-lands, with thick clustering elms and beeches, marked the course of a pretty rippling stream, called by courtesy 'the river'; beyond, on each side of the valley, rose the softly-swelling downs, over which you might roam for miles together, with finest thymy turf below your feet, and the glorious heavens above you, without meeting with any obstacle in the shape of fence or gate to obstruct your passage. The village consisted of one long street, with cottages on each side; but not in a straight town-like row, for some stood a little back from the road, surrounded by gardens or orchards; and others abutted on the street, presenting some picturesque buttress or gable, which effectually broke the monotony of the appearance which would have otherwise prevailed. Almost every house was clothed with roses, honeysuckles, or other bright flowers; and their roofing, composed either of dark thatch, or of the massive stone-tile peculiar to that district, harmonized well

with the coloring of nature, and gave a very pleasing appearance to the dwellings.

The village of Stockdale boasted of but three gentlemen's houses. A noble Elizabethan edifice, built of stone, and exhibiting the eight gables, large porches, and deep casemented windows, with their heavy stone mullions and tracery belonging to that period, was its pride; over one of the porches was a beautiful oriel window, an appendage to a splendid antique drawing-room, which formed one of the architectural boasts of the county. This house belonged to the lord of the manor. At the other end of the village stood the other two houses that I have named, one belonging to the clergyman, the other to an old widow lady. Both of these were good old brick houses, separated only by their respective lawns and gardens, and by the quiet church-yard, in which stood an old stone church. On an open rising-ground just below the gate of the church-yard, were the remains of an ancient carved stone cross, sheltered by a group of fine old lime-trees.

It was a sparkling frosty morning in early winter, when from the windows of Mrs. Pryce's house, which I have named as near that part of the village, I observed a great gathering of people under these trees, and around the relics of the cross. Business of a very exciting nature seemed to be going on there; men and women in their working garbs were bustling about; and the children, just freed from Miriam Doughty's school close by, were clustering round, some with their hands tucked under their arms, to keep them warm, others, frisking about like wild colts, running, leaping, and rejoicing. Suddenly the trees and the old cross, with those who stood about it, were illuminated with a glow of red light; long bright flames were seen to mount on high, licking the branches of the limes, and writhing and wave and flicker in the air, whilst a burst of exultation rose from the bystanders. 'What are they doing?' asked I: 'what is it all about?' 'Tis only burning a pig, ma'am!' was the amusing reply. I was much in the same state of astonishment as that which beset a learned judge of assize, when on one of his western circuits he found himself called on to sum up the evidence on a pig-stealing case, and could not satisfy his mind on some points of the evidence, which included a statement of a similar occurrence. 'Gentlemen of the jury,' said he, 'I must leave it to yourselves to decide how far it is probable that a man would incur all this risk to obtain an animal with the sole purpose of *burning* it when he had done so.' 'Why should these people be such blockheads as to thus destroy their property?' thought I. 'Why perpetrate such a cruelty?' I, however, soon ascertained that it was not an *auto-da-fe*, and that the poor animal was not being burned alive; and throwing on my bonnet and shawl, I was soon in the thick of the throng.

At first, the flames, which were continually fed by the lookers-on with handfuls of dry straw, obscured the object round which they were playing, and the smoke and flashes of fire which circled through the air prevented me from seeing what was going on; but anon the flames died away, and there lay poor piggy, stretched on a rude bier prepared for the purpose, his hide all clouded with smoke and dirt, and looking most dismal. I found, on inquiry, that it was no mystic rite which had been performing, but merely an ordinary utilitarian operation. In Wilts and Hampshire, it is the custom to singe the hair from the carcass of the slaughtered pig, instead of cleaning it, as in other counties, by means of pouring scalding water over it, and then scraping out the bristles with a knife; and it is this difference in management which in part makes the bacon of those counties so much preferable to that of Devon or Somerset, where the scalding process prevails. In country villages, the burning usually takes place at some one authorized spot, in order to avoid the danger of fire which might arise from the too close neighborhood of houses, and forms a sufficient reason for a gathering of the neighbors; the whole scene is on such occasions exceedingly picturesque and amusing.

A sheep-shearing custom in the same village was quite new to me, and as it may be also to my readers, I will mention it.

I had been staying a few days at the Great House, as the Manor House was commonly called, and one fine summer evening we walked to the farms to see the sheep-shearing which was going on. There are few among the ordinary country pursuits which furnish a prettier scene than that of sheep-shearing. The grouping of the people; the many snowy sheep and lambs just relieved from their hot clothing issuing from the barn-door, and hastening to greet each other with their plaintive voices; together with the other sweet rural sights and sounds which abound outside, are full of attractions; and then the busy social parties within, the bustle and gaiety, the emulation which goes on among the shearers, and the merry chat of the binders, all tend to make you feel that the sheep-shearing certainly is a very pleasant sight. In the barn where the people were at work on this occasion, was, as is usual, a long table formed of boards placed on tressels running nearly the whole length of the place, on which the fleeces were rolled and bound up before packing away. This operation is performed by women, some of whom wait on the shearers, and receive the fleeces

as they are cut off; whilst others are employed at the table in rolling and binding. Of course the men take great care to engage as their attendants those damsels in whom they have special interest; and of course, as may well be supposed, many a flirtation goes on at shearing-time.

These groups are very pretty. Sometimes you will see some good old 'John Anderson,' waited on by the faithful old companion who has climbed the hill of life with him, and been his binder since they were like the lovingest young couple near them—a lad and lass who can neither of them have seen twenty summers, but who are now 'keeping company,' and almost too busy with each other to look after the work. Then, not far off, stands a buxom bright-eyed woman, proudly watching the skill and dexterity with which her husband strips off the heavy fleece; rarely has she to hand him the stick from the tar-pot for the purpose of plastering over any cuts in the flesh of the sheep he shears. But this boast cannot be made of the clumsy fellow who sits next, and who had, some three or four years back, vainly made suit for her hand: he does not shear one whilst her 'maister' does three. 'He, indeed!' she says: 'my Paul's worth ten of such as he.'

As we walked from group to group, our attention was attracted by a whispering and tittering among the women, and a half-suppressed smile on the visages of the men, which indicated that some discussion had been going on which the arrival of the gentry had stopped. One of the best shearers, a handsome stalwart youth, was looking dark and downcast; and the bright eyes of Ednah Bray, a beautiful girl who was acting as his binder, and was soon to become his bride, evinced that she was not altogether happy.

The young squire, who formed one of our party, and who was on that kindly footing with his father's tenants which should always exist between the landlord and the laborer, undertook to investigate the business, and a few inquiries soon brought the matter to light. 'Well, sir, Ned Crook have a lets sheep goo, and the boys will have it a must be *cheir'd*, and Ned's main sore about it; that's all 'tis, sir,' said a merry-looking old man. There was no appeal from the sentence. Customs in country-places are stubborn things; and it was here a custom, from time immemorial, that any shearer who was so clumsy as to let his sheep slip from under his hands half-shorn, should receive the punishment of being carried in mock triumph through the village, seated in an arm-chair adorned with flowers, &c., and borne on the shoulders of his fellow-shearers, much after the manner in which the newly-chosen members of parliament are, or formerly were, chaired by their constituents thro' the streets of the borough which they were elected to represent. Poor Ned Crook was a noted shearer, and had won the prize at a late agricultural meeting; and how he came to suffer such an escapade, no one could tell. A slight surmise was afloat, that he had been so deeply interested in discussing some knotty point with Ednah—possibly whether their baps should be put in next Sunday—and had become so much excited thereby, as to snip the poor sheep's flesh instead of its wool, and thus to make it bolt. Certainly, the fair girl stood blushing by; the sheep was wounded, and it had escaped; and as certainly Ned Crook was obnoxious to the law, and rebellious to the authorities who would inflict its penalties. It was no easy task to reconcile the culprit to his fate, and it required all the young squire's logic and good-nature to accomplish it. His last resource was a merry offer to mount the chair himself, and take the first turn; and the fun of this notion, together with a whisper from Ednah, effected the business, and soon restored its customary brightness to the countenance of the young shearer. The chair was speedily produced, and gaily decorated with a rich garniture of roses and lilies, and other sweet summer flowers, mixed with all the gay ribbons that could be collected on the instant; and it was a pretty scene to witness as the rustic procession wound down the village street. After the gentleman had taken his turn, Ned, who now quite entered into the spirit of the thing, was seated in the chair, smiling and bowing with mock dignity to all around; whilst flowers and flags, which had sprung out suddenly from no one knew where, were just touched by the rays of the evening sun as the luminary sank below the horizon.

The very ancient, but, alas! almost exploded custom of singing carols under the windows of the principal inhabitants on the eve of Christmas-day, prevailed still in this secluded village. Here, too, the touching and mournful ceremony of the passing bell yet held sway, and acted as a solemn reminder to the living to ask: Am I prepared to die? But one custom, most expressive and poetic, suggestive of many touching thoughts, had passed away, yet not without leaving a memorial of its former existence; for there, on the wall of the church, hung the remains of a wreath of flowers and a pair of gloves, which, though originally of virgin white, were now become time-worn and darkened by the dust of many years. None knew when or for whom they had been there deposited; but all who looked on them felt that some sorrowful tale of early death and virgin purity was attached to them. Those mute insignia seemed to speak of a mystic bridal—of the purified

soul, washed in the cleansing blood of Him who died to save, going forth out of the body to meet the Bridegroom. It seems to have been the practice in former years—possibly a relic of chivalrous times—to lay a wreath of white flowers, and a pair of gloves of the same color, on the coffin of a young virgin; and when her body was committed to the grave, these tokens were suspended on the wall of the church, as the banner and arms of a victor were anciently over his grave. I have myself never seen a vestige of one of these funeral garlands save this in the little church of Stockdale.

There are several pleasing old reminders of ancient times which linger about among the recesses of the far west, especially in Devonshire and Cornwall. The curfew may still be heard in the western counties pealing from many a church-tower at eight in the evening, calling to mind the stern days of feudal rule, and raising in the hearts of those who are enjoying the social fireside, with their families round them, a thanksgiving that they may continue their pleasant evening an hour or two longer, without fear of a visit from legal fire-extinguishers or the imposition of a fine. But the sound of the curfew is not so pleasant to the little ones of a household; for when it rings, it is the almost invariable signal for them to retreat to bed; and many a time have I seen the little vagabonds raise some special uproar at the first note of the dreaded bell, in the vain hope of deadening its sound, so that the elders may not hear it. The curfew-bell is rung still, or was very lately, in the town of Modbury, in South Devon, and that of Taunton, in Somerset. At the latter place, there is what I conclude to be a modification of the morning-bell, which used to ring at four in the morning, as an intimation that the king's liege subjects might once more enjoy the blessings of artificial light and warmth. This bell now rings at a quarter before five in the summer, and rather later in the winter, and is considered as a call for work-people. A single bell sounds out with a loud shrill clang for about two or three minutes, then it stops; and one of a deeper tone slowly takes up the word, and peals the number of strokes necessary to indicate the age of the month. This daily reminder of the lapse of time has a solemn effect on a thoughtful mind, and well sums up that lesson which the striking of the clock is every hour inculcating. On Sunday, when the workman's bell does not ring, the day of the month is tolled after the cessation of a bell which sounds at seven o'clock in the morning. At Hatherleigh, a little town in Devonshire, we find a somewhat similar custom. Soon after the clock has struck the hour of 5 A. M., and of 9 P. M., a bell tolls out as many strokes as the month is days old.

At Tor, and some other villages in Devonshire, a pretty custom exists among children, which I do not remember to have met with elsewhere. On May-day, a general stir arises amongst the little cottage-girls of the community; and, indeed, for several days beforehand, indications of some approaching festival may be observed, for the little damsels are gathered together at every corner, and seem to be consulting over some knotty point. Every bud of blossom which appears in their gardens—every rose-bud on their rustic porches, is cherished and watched with deepest interest. At about 9 o'clock on the 1st of May, or as early as the gentry are supposed to be up and about, the business of the day begins. If your sitting-room windows happen to overlook the approach to your house, or you should have strolled into your garden after breakfast to inhale the breathing sweets of the spring morning, you will probably see a group of little girls, all clad in their Sunday's best, and with fresh flowers in their hands or in their bosoms, clustering round your gate. Then follows the pattering of many little feet up your gravel-walk, and a low hum of voices beneath your window, with a suppressed but just distinguishable titter as some of the bolder advance and give a modest tap at your door. You can see with a glance that there is some interesting object which excites the young party, some one point of special attraction on which all eyes are centered; for of course, if you are a stranger, you watch the movements of the mysterious little band with wondering admiration; and you will see few prettier sights than the bright and eager faces and gestures of such a group of little country maidens all on the tiptoe of pleasure and expectation. There they stand, creatures from three to twelve or thirteen years old, all as fresh as roses, and as frolicsome as young lambs. And now your maid brings in a long parcel, generally on a pasteboard tray, covered with a clean handkerchief. 'Please, ma'am, would you like to see a May-doll?' Of course you would like it; and you sally forth to examine it in the presence of these pretty living May-dolls who brought it, and elicit from them many a delighted smile, and a little of their broad Devonshire talk, in reply to your real 'admiration of their bambino,' which is, in truth, a very pretty thing. Every little girl who can by any means obtain a doll of a tolerable size, does so with a view to this festival. The little figure—often a really handsome wax-baby—is arranged in the best style that some dress-maker aunt or sister can possibly achieve. The first I saw was a large and pretty wax-doll, clothed in pure white muslin. The whole tray in

which it was laid was a bed of sweet fresh flowers' and all round the head and shoulders of the doll were clustered sprigs of the fragrant myrtle which grows so luxuriantly in that sweet southern climate, intermixed with half-opened China-rose buds, violets, and primroses. It was evident that some one with true taste had presided over the toilet and the arrangement of the May-doll; for the simplicity of its dress and the arrangement of the flowers were really elegant; and the whole of the little procession was very prettily disposed. Very many of these dolls are carried about the village of Tor: I have known as many as thirty presented and received at one house. It is, of course, usual to give a few pence to each little party whose doll you look at, and sometimes to add some little books or pictures, apples or cakes. The whole of what is given is divided at the close of the day between the children who form the party—equally between the little band of leaders and followers.

I have never heard any reason assigned for this custom, which is, however, I believe, of great antiquity, and strictly local. It may have originated in the old days of Roman Catholic rule, and be a relic of some procession of the 'bambino' or infant Jesus, in honor of the festival of St. Philip and St. James, which occurs on the 1st of May; or it may be that the highly-decorated doll, in its bed of flowers, is meant as a representation of the goddess Flora, to whom May-day was dedicated by our pagan forefathers. Hone, in his *Everyday Book*, speaks of a custom in Northampton not altogether dissimilar to this. His correspondent says: 'The girls from the neighboring villages of Kingsthorpe, &c., on the morning of May-day, come into the town with May garlands, which they exhibit from house to house. . . . The garland is composed of two hoops crossing each other vertically, and covered with flowers and streamers of various colored ribbons; these are affixed to a staff about five feet long, by which it is carried; and in each of the apertures between the hoops is placed a smartly-dressed doll.'

A Cornish festival, avowedly in honor of Flora, and very remarkable for its antiquity as well as for the unusual association of the different classes of the inhabitants in one common merriment, which seems almost to remind one of a continental carnival, deserves our notice, and must end our catalogue of rural customs.

On the 8th of May, a festival is observed at Helston, in Cornwall, and I believe also at Truro and some other places, called 'Furry, or Flora-day.' This commences at an early hour in the morning, when the streets resound with music and mirth. No man is allowed to work; and if any is caught transgressing this rule, he is instantly set astride on a pole, carried off on men's shoulders, and sentenced to leap over the river, from which doom he is allowed to escape on paying a fine towards the expenses of the day. Should he prefer the leap, he usually goes in instead of over, for the river is of some considerable width. At nine in the morning, the mob gathers round all the schools, demanding a holiday for the inmates, which is always granted; and then a collection is set on foot throughout the town, to form a fund for general purposes of entertainment. At twelve, the cottagers, male and female, who have previously collected flowers and oak-branches for the purpose, enter the town with a band of music, their heads dressed with garlands, and dance in procession through the streets, entering every house they please without exception. When there are two entrances, the party dances in at one and out of the other; but otherwise they dance in, and through the house, and come out by the door at which they entered. Old and young, rich and poor, all dance, but not at the same time or in the same party; for they form different sets, no two of which are allowed to clash.

After the dancing of the commonalty is over, follows that of the gentry. The sons and daughters of the most respectable families, all elegantly dressed, and ornamented with the richest flowers, follow where the rustics have preceded, and dance through streets and houses; and these are succeeded by other bands, concluding with the male and female servants. A young lady of good family, who had herself very often formed one of the dancing-procession, told me of these ceremonies, and said that it was a day of great delight to all classes, and that the scenes it exhibited were exceedingly pretty and amusing when fair weather permitted the due observance of the ceremonial.

Column for Young People.

A WORD ON KINDNESS.

There is, I should think, no person who has not felt the soothing effect of little acts of voluntary kindness—trifling in appearance, but valuable, because springing from the heart. A little incident once occurred to me which suggested a train of thought on this subject, and which I will here transcribe.

I was just setting out to visit a little sick friend, who resides about five miles from my own home, and being a good pedestrian, was proceeding at a brisk pace down a pleasant lane leading towards the high road, when my attention was attracted by a group of boys who were plucking wild-roses. One, a little

pale-faced, black-eyed fellow, had just secured two more beautiful than the rest, which he held separate from them in one hand; and if I may judge by the care he bestowed on them, was evidently proud of his prize. Now, I am particularly fond of wild-roses, for I think, of all the fair flowers which a beneficent Creator has bestowed to gladden the senses as we roam the fields and lanes, they possess the most delicate beauty and the sweetest perfume.

As I approached the little urchins, I cast an admiring glance on the two beautiful buds; and a feeling of gladness took possession of my mind, when I thought that these little ragged dirty fellows, though their dwelling was in all probability in a dim and dirty street, still possessed gardens and flowers of which none could deprive them, and which has been provided alike for rich and poor by Him who forms nothing in vain. Whether the boy observed my look, and with a childish instinct read my thoughts also, I can not tell; but I am inclined to think there is a sort of mysterious free-masonry between persons of similar tastes, especially those who are lovers of nature's works. At any rate, there was sympathy between little Black-eyes and myself, for he turned towards me, and with the frank and natural grace of childhood, placed the treasured flowers in my hand. I was much pleased at this instance of unlooked-for kindness, and thanked him so heartily, that his bright eyes fairly sparkled, and his pale cheek flushed with delight, at finding his little offering appreciated. I had walked a few steps on my way, when I remembered that my basket contained a few nuts; so I retraced my steps and offered him a handful, which, you may be sure, were gladly accepted. But mark the result. When his companions saw this, they, too, offered me, not a rose or two, but large bunches, doubtless hoping to receive a similar recompense. And did these flowers prove equally acceptable? Certainly not. I refused them; and after again thanking the kind boy, passed on my way, musing on the little incident which had for a moment interrupted my walk, and trying to draw a lesson from it for my own improvement. As I said when I began writing, it suggested a train of thought respecting voluntary kindness, bestowed without hope of reward, with the view of giving pleasure to others, and those acts of service offered in anticipation of return.

I considered how many things may be done without any additional labor to ourselves, which will greatly promote the happiness and comfort of others; and I think there is far more consideration shown in little sacrifices than in great ones. Many persons, for instance, will not scruple to pay large sums, or do a hundred things of magnitude, if I may be permitted to use the term, for those they profess to esteem, who yet would grumble at the smallest personal inconvenience.

I knew a young lady, then governess in the family of a worthy clergyman, who, when speaking of the kindness she received from the parents of her pupils, said: 'It is not the liberal salary I receive, the pleasant rooms assigned to me at the parsonage, or the many comforts with which they surround me, that make me think of them so highly, but it is the manner in which little matters affecting my health and welfare are attended to by themselves, which has so greatly endeared them to me. When I was ill, shortly after I became an inmate of their house, the lady did not leave me to the care of servants, but when any little delicacy to tempt the appetite of an invalid was prepared, she came with her light step and sweet cheering smile to my bed, and herself supported me whilst I tried to partake of it. At the same time, three of her children were suffering from severe sickness; but in spite of that, she managed to spare time to tend the stranger with her own dear gentle hand. Then, when able to resume my duties in the school-room, her husband would put his head in, when passing, and beg me to change my seat if he thought I might feel cold in my present one. These seem little matters; but these were the very things which made me feel I could never weary of serving them, and I strove to show my appreciation of them by the assiduous care I bestowed on the education of their children.'

Thus we see nothing is done in vain; for I believe there are few who do not feel grateful for the consideration shown them in attending to the more trivial concerns of this life; since those who thus act in regard to *them*, are not likely to forget any of greater importance.

Should any young persons read the incidents I have related, I trust they will not be told in vain; but I sincerely hope they may be the means of turning their thoughts to the cultivation of an obliging and kind disposition, which is, in the young especially, a never-failing charm. I have studied the subject, and have invariably found that I made more friends by my practice of never missing an opportunity of rendering a service, when time permitted, than by the more important duties which I have been called on to perform. Let not my young readers, however, suppose that I would teach them to neglect great matters for little ones, but merely to give a due attention to both; and

whether in their own family circle or amongst strangers, to cultivate a spirit of kindness, the fruits of which will be a comfort to others and a pleasure to themselves.

Record of the Times.

THE YOUNG MEN OF THE AGE.—The learned Professions, formerly so called, are no longer so limited in number, or confined to so narrow a scope as they have been. Law, Divinity and Medicine are only three of a score of professions which call into exercise the mental productive talent of the age. This increased demand for educated men for widely different occupations, calls for some radical change in the character and modes of instruction. The education of the lawyer is not the best for the engineer or the architect. The discipline of a college is, to a great extent, lost upon the manufacturer and agriculturalist. The general principle that the more a man knows the better, is a correct one; but for immediate, practical use, the times ask for men who are competent to act—not men of general information alone, or of great research and classic mind.

A recent number of the *Home Journal* contains the following excellent remarks:—

"This nation, in the course of the next fifty years, is to be torn down and built up better. Of the two hundred and fifty churches standing this day in New York, not twenty will exist in the year 1900; but will have been replaced by better ones, if architects can be found to build them. But those who practice the profession of architecture must have ideas. Copyists we have already, and copies we have already. We want men who will thoroughly master their art, not be enslaved by it; men who will seize the great idea, that *Beauty is utility perfected*, and make it live in structures that shall answer their purpose to admiration, yet gladden the eye and exalt the taste of those who behold them.

"We want men of action; but the main effort of our schools is to produce men of talk. An engineer who had occasion, some time ago, for two assistants in surveying for a railroad, addressed the following question to three professors of mathematics attached to three colleges of high repute:—'In the class about to graduate from your institution, are there any young men competent to go upon the road immediately and make surveys, without any assistance from me?' *There were none*, and the professor frankly said so. What a fact is this! As a preparation for the duties of modern life, our college course is scarcely of any use at all; and we care not who hears us when we say, if a young man is resolved to run a great career in an active, manly profession, let him keep out of college. That young man has no four years to waste! His knowledge must be real, positive, modern. He needs a trained eye, a trained hand, a broad chest and long wind: *not*, a stimulated brain merely. He must learn how to do this and that for himself. He must be a man of the world, educated in the world, by the world, for the world.

"The sum of the whole matter is this: the talking professions have had their day; the active professions are going to have theirs; the means of education have not yet become adjusted to the new want; and he who promotes such adjustment, even so far as to point out its necessity, does a good thing."

FOREIGN NEWS.

By the arrival of the *Arabia*, we have news to September 24.

THE EASTERN QUESTION.—From Constantinople, Sept. 8, it was stated that the greatest excitement still prevailed. A petition was in circulation, and had obtained a great number of signatures, calling upon the Ministers either to make war or to conclude an honorable peace. The feeling of the Turks is that, having collected a large army from the most distant parts of

the Empire, a declaration of peace, and consequent disbandment of these troops, would be almost as bad as an eruption of the enemy. It was not supposed that, in the present state of affairs, any collision would ensue on the Danube. Without further provocation, the Russians would scarcely cross the Danube at this late season; and OMAR PACHA's operations are mainly, if not entirely, on the defensive. It is in Asia that a collision is most to be apprehended, as there the Turks, surrounded by a sympathising Mussulman population, have only to give the signal to raise around the standard of Islamism all the warlike population of Kurdistan, Lazistan, Daghistan, and also of Circassia.

All sorts of alarming rumors were flying thick and fast. Among other very doubtful news that have been sent to Paris, was a report that a deputation of the Ulemans, or united bodies of priests, lawyers, and men of letters had called on the Sultan either to declare war against Russia, or to abdicate the throne. The time allowed his answer was to the feast of Kurban Baram, on the 14th. The Peace party, however, would be satisfied with a demonstration from the combined fleets, and the dismissal of the Minister of War. A general feeling prevailed at Constantinople, that the Sultan would make no further concession either to Russia or the Powers.

FRANCE.—Whatever may be the issue of the present Turkish difficulty, it is the general belief in Paris that the Emperor will not go to war. He is said to have expressed himself to that effect very recently. The reasons assigned for this determination are the deficiency of the harvest, the large amount of paper now in market in consequence of the numerous speculations to which prosperity has given rise, and lastly, the probability that France will be invaded by a formidable enemy—the cholera.

CHINA.—Latest advices from Shanghai, July 11, states that the insurgents were marching a large force to the West and North, and had taken one or two cities in those directions. It was concluded that it was their intention at once to proceed to Peking,—but there was much uncertainty in all reports as to their movements. No important advantages had been recently gained by either party.

At Canton there had been fewer rumors than usual, during the month, respecting the insurrection. The city and vicinity continued quiet, but parties of insurgents were known to be in the neighborhood. The capture of Nanchang, the principal city in the Kiang-si Province, is confirmed. The main body of the insurgents were moving southwards, and would pass through the principal tea districts. This southerly movement would indicate an approach on Canton. Trade at Canton was quite depressed; Money extremely scarce and Exchange high. There had been much activity in shipments of tea, at advanced rates, since the arrival of the mail of 24th May, but the supply from the interior was slackening.

By orders of Hon. Mr. MARSAALL, United States Commissioner, the American flag had been hauled down at Amoy, there being no representative there of the existing Government of China.

THE JAPAN EXPEDITION.—The North China Herald of July 9, says: that while the United States' fleet were in the vicinity of Napakiang three of the vessels went on a cruise eastward and touched at several beautiful islands. At one of them they discovered a few European residents, consisting of English, Scotch, Irish, and Spanish, who had left whalers and established themselves there. Among them were about eleven women. The Governor of the island is a Scotchman. He claims the island as his own, and has been settled there about twenty years. He has a family of several children.

The Commodore has made a purchase of a piece of land containing about ten acres, for \$50. It is in a good situation, on one of the best sites of the harbor, and is intended for a Government coal depot. The island is mountainous, and the harbor excellent, hav-

ing from eighteen to twenty fathoms of water at the anchorage. Shell fish, such as lobsters and cray-fish, abound; on land plenty of wild goats are to be found. Plums, bananas, plantains, and other varieties of fruit are abundant on the island.

Mexico.—The British steamer Clyde arrived from Vera Cruz on the morning of the 8th of Sept., bringing several passengers, forced from Mexico by the orders of SANTA ANNA. The intelligence received by private letters indicates a very disturbed political state, and intimates that SANTA ANNA feels anything but confidence in his power to sustain his position. He is progressing as rapidly as possible in the organization of his army—to reach the strength of 80,000 men, the drafts to cover all ages from 16 to 50. The enlistment, or enrollments, of the various districts, remote from the capital, are tied in pairs, and driven by guards until they reach the barracks intended for their cultivation in the "school of the soldier," and *esprit du corps* necessary before arms can be entrusted to them.

A report had reached New-Orleans Sept. 27th, of the breaking out of hostilities in the Mesilla Valley, between the United States troops and the Mexican forces. General Trias had also received information that a large body of American troops were concentrating on the Rio Grande, and that they would unite with those already in the valley in an attempt to seize it. These reports had created the most intense excitement, which, at the latest account, had got to be of so serious a character, that the supreme Government had thought proper to demand from General GADSDEN, the American Minister, an immediate explanation of the intentions of the United States Government in sending out additional forces to occupy the Mesilla Valley and vicinity.

NEWS ITEMS.

On Sunday, Oct. 2d, six boys went out for a sail on Niagara river near Buffalo, when, by some accident the boat capsized and two of the party were drowned. It is often remarked that more accidents of this kind occur on the Sabbath than on all other days.

The Danish Government has been officially informed that there are 1,300 Danes on the eve of emigrating to Utah. Prodigious efforts are making by the Mormons throughout the North of Europe to direct emigrants to their State.

Out of every one hundred men who were married in England in 1850, thirty-three signed the marriage register with their marks, and out of every one hundred women, forty-six.

The Home Journal says that maps, charts and engravings may be varnished by a delicate coating of gutta-percha. It is perfectly transparent, and is said to improve the appearance of pictures. Documents may be rendered water-proof and effectually preserved by coating both sides with the same material.

In less than ten months a railroad two hundred and sixty-five miles in length, will be completed from Philadelphia to Elmira, on the Erie railroad.

The Boston Post states that over 8,500 persons visited the Mechanics' Exhibition at Faneuil and Quincy Halls on a single day.

The whole quantity of iron employed in the construction of the Crystal Palace amounts to 1900 tons—of which 300 tons are of wrought, and 1500 of cast iron. The quantity of glass is 15,000 panes, or 55,000 square feet. The quantity of wood used amounts to 750,000 feet, board measure.

Within twenty miles of the cities of Sandusky and Toledo, and on or near the line of the lake-shore branch of the Cleveland and Toledo Railroad, there are lands offering for three dollars to five dollars per acre. They are heavily timbered with black walnut and other kinds of trees.

At the U. S. Circuit Court held in Hartford, Walter Taylor, sentenced for ten years to the State prison in May last for a pension fraud, had five more years

added to his sentence by the discovery of another fraudulent case of his getting up.

John Bickel, of Jamestown, Pa., is probably the oldest postmaster in the country, having been appointed under Jefferson's administration, by Gideon Granger, in 1802. He is now 78 years of age, and transacts all his business himself.

The number of applications received at the Patent office during the year 1852, were 2,639. The number of patents issued were 1,020. Applications on hand not acted upon 481.

There was also filed 996 caveats, and 525 patents have run their fourteen years and expired.

The Halifax Chronicle describes a peculiar fish, caught in that vicinity. The head, shoulders and waist resemble the female figure; the lower part that of a salmon. Many persons considered it a young mermaid.

A Horological Cradle is on exhibition at the Crystal Palace. It moves by clock-work, and will rock about twenty-four hours without any one going near it.

The Democrats have elected their candidate for Governor in Georgia. The Legislature is also Democratic by a large majority.

The American Board of Missions commenced its annual meeting at Cincinnati, Ohio, Oct. 5th. The annual report shows the receipts to have been, for the past year, \$310,000, and the expenditures \$314,000. The report from the Prudential Committee shows the whole number of members, 187; the whole number of missionaries, 360; number of missions, 28; stations, 149.

An extensive fire occurred at Buffalo Oct. 5th. Some four or five acres of ground were burned over. The loss will not exceed \$30,000, the insurance on which is under \$20,000.

The N. Y. Times says that a new House Printing Telegraph line is to be built this fall from Troy to Montreal, which will make the fifth line leading from New-York to Montreal and Quebec.

The American Bible Union held its fourth anniversary at New-York, Oct. 6. The total receipts of the Society for the year have been \$27,594.55.

A Woman Rights Convention has been in session at Cleveland, Ohio, the past week. Mrs. Francis D. Gage was elected Presidentess, with nine Vice-Presidents of both sexes.

The Poems of GEO. P. MORRIS are about to be published in one large octavo volume, by Scribner, of New-York. It is to be illustrated by steel engravings and a fine portrait of the author.

The shipments of Wheat from New-York have been nearly doubled within the last eight months. The exports of provisions have increased and are still increasing largely. It seems to be no longer a question that the European harvest will be insufficient to meet the wants of the people, rendering it probable that breadstuffs will continue to command good prices, whatever may be the result of the pending hostilities. The French Government, however, foreseeing a scarcity, has reduced the duties upon corn, flour, meal, rice, &c., imported before the first of next January, and has exempted the vessels bringing them from the usual tonnage duties. This tends to increase the present demand but to decrease the prospects of its continuance. They have also purchased largely of breadstuffs to sell again, in order to prevent any extreme or long continued advance of prices.—*Alb. Ev. Jour.*

LEGAL DECISION AS TO THE RIGHTS OF TRAVELERS.—A gentleman brought an action recently in one of the Ohio courts against the owners of a steamboat on which he had lost a trunk containing \$2,000. The Court held that they were bound to pay for the loss of ordinary baggage, but not for anything of unusual value, unless it was made known to them beforehand, so that they could take extra care, and charge an extra price for carrying it. Accordingly the jury brought in a verdict allowing him \$300—the value of the trunk and the clothing in it—but disallowing the \$2,000.

DANGEROUS COUNTERFEIT.—Extremely well executed \$5 notes upon the Unadilla Bank are in circulation. The engraving and filling up are close imitations of the genuine bill. The word "Unadilla," where it occurs with the date, is somewhat larger and heavier in the counterfeit than in the genuine note.

SAMUEL S. RANDALL, Esq. has been appointed Superintendent of Public Schools in the city of New-York. An excellent selection.

DEATH OF MR. SCHLATTER, THE DRAUGHTSMAN.—The Lake Superior Journal, of the 17th ult., gives some particulars of the death of Mr. Schlatter, a draughtsman attached to the Geological Survey Expedition at Portage Lake, who was frozen to death last Winter in the woods. It seems he left the North American location at about 10 o'clock in the morning, to go to the Quincy mine, which is 15 miles distant. He took neither blanket nor food, nor even matches for kindling a fire, expecting to reach his destination before night. His path was through the woods, over a deep snow, which he traversed on snow-shoes. He was a good woodsman, and well acquainted with the route; but, becoming confused, he lost his way, wandered all night, and probably most of the next day, and was at length discovered at about 9 o'clock on the second night, by a party which went in pursuit of him—being alarmed by his non arrival at the Quincy mine—frozen to death, lying at full length under the shelter of a stout cedar. The tops and drooping limbs of this tree are so thick as frequently to keep the snow from falling for a space around the roots. Mr. Schlatter, conscious probably that his fate was fixed, had crawled under this shelter, and calmly lay down to die. His compass was laid on one side; his hat and wig remained on the other; and he was found—the vital warmth not all gone—lying with his hands folded across the breast, his limbs and body perfectly straight, and the face upward. Mr. Schlatter was one of the best draughtsmen in the United States, and has for many years been employed in surveys, explorations, and mapping locations.

VIRGINIA TREASURY LAND WARRANTS.—The Land Office Bureau are constantly being applied to to satisfy "Land Office Exchange Treasury Warrants," under the act of August 31, 1852, which provides for the liquidation of "Virginia Land Office Military Warrants," by issuing scrip on which any public domain subject to private entry may be taken up. Of course these requests are declined, as the Treasury warrants are not provided for in the law. They may be located only upon lands the property of the State of Virginia, within her own limits. At present she has none of the kind which command more than 2½ cents per acre in the market. Unprincipled speculators are constantly palming these Virginia Treasury Land Warrants off upon the unwary, for Virginia Military Land Warrants. Not long since a party in New-York paid \$200 for such a piece of scrip, and sent it here for the redemption explained above. In vain, of course. Its market value here, at that time, was just five dollars. It is worthy of note, that the State authorities unintentionally aid and abet these frauds, by making the two descriptions of warrants almost identical in their appearance to the casual observer.—*Virginia Paper.*

CURIOUS FACT.—The New-Haven Register states that toward the close of the Revolution the owners of the North Church in that city, sent to Boston for nails to make repairs with, when one of the kegs sent in return for the order was found to contain Spanish silver dollars. The deacons wrote to the Boston merchant that there was "an error in shipping the goods," but he answered that the nails were sold as he bought them of a privateersman, and he could not rectify mistakes. So the silver was melted up and made into a service of plate for the church, which is in use at the present day.

Gen. O. HINTON, the celebrated Ohio mail robber, who was arrested some two or three years since in Ohio, and afterwards released on bail and left the country, forfeiting his bail bond, has been arrested in California. He first went to Cuba, then to California, and afterwards to Oregon, where he kept a public house for some time. Lately, however, he has been sojourning in California, under the assumed name of Samuel G. Gordon, but was recognized by a former citizen of Columbus as the veritable Hinton. It is understood that he will shortly be brought back to Ohio for trial.

LUDICROUS EXPLOSION.—A keg of yeast, for transportation, exploded this morning about 2 o'clock, in the office of the American Express Company, scattering the contents throughout the room, and completely besmearing two snoozing attaches of the concern, who were sleeping on the floor. The scene presented on opening the office this morning, is described as one of the most ludicrous that could be imagined. The head of the keg flew with force sufficient to break through the ceiling, and not a gill of the liquid remained in the vessel.—*Cincinnati Times.*

Died, at his residence in East Thirteenth st., on Thursday, 6th inst., at about 1 o'clock, P. M., Hon. ELIJAH PAINE, one of the Judges of the Superior Court of this city. He was taken dangerously ill at Poughkeepsie, and was brought to the city on Monday. His disease was a congestion of the lungs.—*N. Y. Herald.*

SLAVER SEIZED.—The barque Lady Suffolk arrived at Vera Cruz in charge of a Mexican officer, she having been seized under Mexican colors and equipped for the slave trade.

A MISER.—A miser, named Noah Odell, sixty years old, died on Sunday, in Boston. So fearful was he of losing his money, that he wore a chain round his body, to which was fastened a stout bag, in which the treasure was deposited. This he kept by him during his sickness, and upon it was fixed his dying gaze. In winter, it is related that he went to church three times a day, to save fuel at home, only leaving the bed to return to it.

MAINE LANDS.—The Governor of Maine devotes most of his message to the Legislature, which just convened in special session to the contracts for the sale in Maine of the lands in that State owned by Massachusetts. The total quantity of these is over 100,000 acres, located on the Kennebec waters, the Aroostook, and the upper waters of the river St. John. Massachusetts offers to sell these for \$362,500.

INDIANS RETURNING.—The Juneau (Wis.) Gazette learns that the Indians who were removed from that county two years ago by order of Government, to a place west of the Mississippi River, are making their way back, and last week had got as far as Blue Mound, 25 miles west of Madison. They will probably be in that country in a very few days. Their number is reported to be between 200 and 300.

GOUGH IN ENGLAND.—The Liverpool papers announce that "on Thursday evening, Mr. J. B. Gough the distinguished American Temperance Lecturer, delivered the first of two lectures on Temperance, at the Concert Hall, Lord Nelson street." Though an admission fee was charged, the hall was densely packed. Mr. Gough was received with enthusiastic cheers on commencing, and was frequently interrupted with applause during his lecture; and "at the close," the European Times says, "the audience broke forth in one unanimous burst of enthusiastic cheering."—*Boston Traveller.*

FOUR DAYS TO EUROPE.—The London Morning Advertiser says that the voyage from Halifax to Galway can easily be accomplished in less than four days by a new and improved construction of steam vessels. But what the "new and improved construction" is, or when, where, and by whom it was made, the London Morning Advertiser does not say.

Farm Product Markets.

Albany Market, October 8, 1853.

Trade is less active in Breadstuffs, owing to the scarcity of supplies. The boats are nearly, if not quite, all in from beyond the late break, and many of them have discharged their cargoes, reloaded and cleared for the West.

FLOUR AND MEAL.—There is less activity in our market for Western and State Flour, but there is no change to notice in the value of either. The demand for the East is moderate, and for home consumption there is but little doing. The sales of the morning aggregate 1,200 bbls. We quote:

Ordinary to straight State.....	\$6 15a6 87
Mixed Indiana and Michigan.....	6 75a7 00
Straight Indiana and Michigan.....	6 87a7 00
Favorite State.....	7 00a7 12
Common to good Ohio.....	6 87a7 00
Fancy Indiana and Michigan.....	7 00a7 12
Fancy Ohio.....	7 00a7 12
Fancy Genesee.....	7 00a7 12
Extra Indiana and Michigan.....	7 00a7 25
Extra Ohio.....	7 12a7 37
Extra Genesee.....	7 25a7 50

Corn Meal is firm and in request at \$1.62a1.69. Buckwheat is saleable at \$2.25a2.37 per cwt.

GRAIN.—For **WHEAT** our market is very firm, with a good home and Eastern milling demand. The supply is quite moderate. Sales 2,800 bu. prime Genesee at 155c; 3,300 bu. do. do., to arrive soon, at 159c., and 800 bu. do. do., delivered at Depot, at 159c. **CORN** is heavier and lower. Last evening a further sale of 2,700 bu. Western mixed was made at 84c.; but on "Change this morning it was freely offered at 84c., without finding buyers. Subsequently a sale of 5,400 bu. was made on p.t. **BARLEY** exhibits much firmness and prices rule very steady, with moderate supplies.—Sales 20,000 bu. including 8,000 bu. two rowed at 79a79½c. for fair to good, and 80c. for prime, and 7,000 bu. four-rowed at 85½c. for inferior and 87 for prime, closing firm with little, if any, unsold. **OATS** are firm and in good request. Sales 10,500 bu. at 46c. for inferior State, and 48a49c. for good to prime Western.

FEED.—The market is better, with but little offering and a good demand. Sales 2,400 bu. 21 lb. Feed at 22c.

NEW YORK, October, 8.

FLOUR AND MEAL.—There is increased business in the low grades of State and Western Flour, and prices are 12½c. easier; the demand for immediate delivery is less active, and only a fair inquiry for forward delivery, and at easier prices for November. Canadian is firm and not plenty. Sales of 600 bbls. at \$7. The sales of Western Canal are 14,600 bbls. at \$6 87a7 for common to straight State, and mixed to fancy Michigan, and common to good Ohio. Southern is held with much firmness, the supply is moderate and the demand good for shipping. Sales of 2,100 bbls. at \$7a7 12½ for mixed to good straight brands Baltimore, Alexandria and Georgetown, and \$7 25a7 50 for fancy brands. **RYE** Flour is scarce. Sales of 150 bbls. at \$4 50 for Fine, and \$5a5 12½ for Super. **CORN** Meal is scarce and held firmly at \$4 18a4 25 for Jersey, and \$4 37a4 44 for Brandywine.

GRAIN.—The supply of Wheat exceeds the demand, and prices are less firm, and only strict prime parcels will command our extreme figures. There is less doing, to arrive,

owing to the apprehension of high freights. The sales are 18,300 bush. White Michigan at \$1 50a1 57 for ordinary to choice; 22,400 bush. Ohio at \$1 49a1 50 for fair to good; 18,000 bush. White Canadian at \$1 35a1 52 for inferior to prime; 8,800 bush. ordinary to prime Genesee at \$1 50a1 60, and 6000 bush. prime white Southern at \$1 52. **RYE** is quiet at 92a93c. **OATS** are firm with a fair demand at 46a 47c. for State and Western, and 40a43c. for Southern. **BARLEY** is quiet at 75a78c. for two-rowed, and 84a85c. for prime four rowed. **CORN** opened rather easier, but closed firm, with a good demand for export and the trade; sales of 33,000 bush. at 84a85c. for unshelled; 85a86c. for Western mixed; 87a88c. for Southern yellow, and 86a87c. for white.

PROVISIONS.—There is less doing in Pork, but for large parcels our quotations are declined, owing to the diminished stock. The demand is fair for the East and for shipping. Sales of 500 bbls. at \$17 12½a17 25 for Mess and \$13 62½a13 75 for Prime. **Beef** is better and in good request. Sales of 400 bbls. at \$7 50a10 for Country Mess; \$12a13 for City Mess, and \$4 75a6 25 for Prime. Prime Mess is firm at \$18a20. **Beef Hams** are quiet at \$12a13 for old, and \$15 for new to arrive. **Cut Meats** are very quiet; the supply is light and holders firm. Sales of 100 lbs. and tcs. at 6½a7c. for Shoulders and 8½a9c. for Hams. **Lard** is buoyant; the stock is quite light. Sales of 300 lbs. and tcs. at 11½a11c. **Butter** is in fair demand at 13a17c. for Ohio and 18a22c. for State dairies. **Cheese** is in fair request at 9½a10c.

HOPS.—A better market; the demand is more active, the stock light, and the arrivals small; sales 50 bales new at 33a 37c. and 30 bales old at 26a30c., which is a shade lower.

CATTLE MARKET.

CAMBRIDGE, Oct. 5.—At market 3115 Cattle, about 2015 Beever, 1400 Stores—consisting of working Oxen, Cows and Calves, yearlings, two and three years old.

Market Beef—Extra \$7½a8½ per cwt.; first quality, \$7½a7½; second do., \$6½a7; third, \$6a6½; ordinary, \$5a5½. Hides, \$6 per cwt. Tallow, \$7a7½. Fats, \$1a1½. Calf Skins, 11c. per lb.; Veal Calves, \$5, 7, 8a12.

Working Oxen—\$112, 116, 122, 125, 136, 147a190. Cows and Calves—\$26, 28, 31, 36a40. Yearlings—\$9, 10a 12. Two years old—\$15, 18, 21a24. Three years old—\$30, 32, 35a42.

Sheep and Lambs—4123 at market. Extra, \$5, 6, 7a10. By lot, \$2½, 2½, 3a4½.

Swine—Wholesale, still fat Hogs, \$5.50, and hard corn fed \$6 per 100.

BRIGHTON, Thursday Oct. 6.—At market, 2150 Beef Cattle—1500 Stores—15 pairs Working Oxen; 98 Cows and Calves; 4000 Sheep and Lambs—2000 Swine.

Beef Cattle—Extra, \$8; first quality, \$7 75; second, \$6a6-75; third, \$5 50a5 75; ordinary, \$5a5 25.

Stores—Yearlings, \$9, 11a12. Two years old, \$15, 17, 19, 21. Three years old, \$30, 35, 37, 39.

Working Oxen—\$95, 100, 115, 130.

Cows and Calves—\$23, 25, 27, 30, 34, 36, 40.

Sheep and Lambs—\$2, 2.50, 2.75. Extra, \$4, 4.50, 5a8.

Swine—5½a6½c. Retail 6½a7c. 1000 of the above reported were Fat hogs, a5½.

WOOL MARKET.

NEW YORK, October 8.—The market is quiet for all descriptions, owing to the stringency of the money market, which generally effects all raw materials. We note sales of 20,000 lbs fleece at 48a53c. Pulled is quiet; sales 5000 lbs at our quotations. Foreign is quiet but firm; sales 140 bales Buenos Ayres at 13a14c. 20,000 washed African at 20a23c. Carpet wools are very firm.

TROY, Oct. 3.—The market remains very quiet with little better demand, particularly for extra pulled and the low grades fleece. Sales of the week 30,000 lbs at prices ranging from 45a55c. Heaviest sales 43c, 51a53c—at the last named price was included 5000 lbs extra pulled. Stock on hand at the "Depot," 750,000 lbs. of which nearly 100,000 lbs is pulled of all grades; also 25,000 do flocks of all colors.

A Great Blessing to the Afflicted.

The number and formidable character of diseases of the Liver have long challenged the attention of medical men. Some of these diseases, classed under the general term of Consumption, have been supposed incurable and the unhappy patient allowed to die, without medical sciences to offer him a hope of recovery. Happily this can no longer be the case. A remedy has been found which will cure all complaints, of whatever character, arising from derangement of the Liver. The Pills discovered by Dr. McLane, of Virginia, act directly on the Liver; and by correcting its operation and purifying it from disease, cuts off and extirpates the complaints which have their origin in the diseases of this organ. Remedies hitherto proposed for liver complaints, have failed to operate upon the seat of the disease; but Dr. McLane's Pills make themselves felt upon the action of the Liver, and by cleansing the fountain, dry up the impure streams of disease which thence derive their existence.

Purchasers will be careful to ask for Dr. McLane's CELEBRATED LIVER PILLS, and take none else. There are other Pills, purporting to be Liver Pills, now before the public. Dr. McLane's Liver Pills, also his Celebrated Vermifuge, can now be had at all respectable Drug Stores in the United States and Canada.

Super-phosphate.

NO expense has been spared in the combination of this most fertilizing manure, which contains the natural properties of plants. It is superior to most of the articles offered for sale under the same name, and is inferior to none, although sold at a much lower price. It is put up in bags, at \$40 per ton, of 2000 lbs., cash.

Office of the New-York Super-phosphate Manufacturing Company, No. 159 West-street, New-York.

Aug. 18—wlt—m3t VICTOR R. KNOWLES, Agent.

New-York State Agricultural College.

At a meeting of the trustees of the State Agricultural College on the 21st September, 1853, it was resolved "to arrange and prepare the Veterinary Department of the College, simultaneously with the earliest courses of instruction; and that every subscriber to the funds of the College be, and he is hereby declared to be entitled to the use of the Hospitals of the said department for all medical or surgical treatment, necessary and proper for such diseases or accidents as may afflict any animal belonging to the said subscriber, to be subject to such rules and regulations as the trustees may, from time to time, appoint and direct.

No cost or charge shall be made for medical or surgical treatment or advice.

The necessary expense for the sustenance of animals received into the Hospitals under this resolution, shall be paid by the proprietors of the animals respectively. By order.

Oct. 8—41w4

J. W. BACON, Secretary.

Pears, Grapes, &c.

THE subscriber offers for sale, by the quantity or in small parcels—

2,500 Pears on the quince—1 year old, finely grown—consisting of about 20 leading varieties and some of the newer sorts, \$25 per 100.

1,000 Black Hamburg and other best varieties of grape for culture under glass—in pots, 50 cents each. A few plants of the Diana—a new native grape of great promise, \$1.

10,000 plants Osage Orange for Hedges, \$5 per 1000.

50,000 Apple seedlings, 1 year, \$5 per 1000.

Also a few apples on the Paradise stock for dwarfs; a few Cherries, Plums, &c.

Orders addressed to me at Albany will meet with attention.

Albany, Oct. 7, 1853.—wlf.

C. P. WILLIAMS.

Dorking Fowls.

A few pair of white and speckled Dorkings for sale at \$3

per pair, by

Oct. 3, 1853.—wlf.

T. A. COLE,

Catskill, N. Y.

Kentucky Farm for Sale.

THE subscriber offers for sale his Farm, consisting of 300 acres of good land, situated in Clark county, Ind., about twenty miles above Louisville, Ky., and one and a half miles from the Ohio river—200 acres under cultivation, and the remainder heavily timbered with blue ash, black walnut and sugar tree—woodland sowed in blue grass, with a good orchard and ten never failing springs; soil well adapted to blue grass, clover, corn and oats—peculiarly adapted to the grazing or dairy business, as it is near Louisville, and any amount of butter can be disposed of at the river to boats at the highest price—with a fine site for an over shot water mill. Price \$30 per acre. For further information address

Oct. 13—w2m2

F. R. MORTON, Shelbyville, Ky.

New-York Agricultural Warehouse.

HORSE Powers, Threshers, Fan Mills, Smut Machines, Grain Drills, Hay Presses, Grain Mills, Corn and Cob Crushers, Cider Mills, and a large assortment of Plows and all kinds of Agricultural and Horticultural Implements.

Peruvian Guano, Super-phosphate of Lime, Bone Dust and other fertilizers of the most superior kinds.

R. L. ALLEN.

Aug. 18—w mtf.

189 & 191 Water-st., New-York.

Superior Seed Wheat.

A LARGE assortment of the best varieties of improved Seed Wheat, among which are the Golden Australian, China or Troy, White Flint, Hutchinson's Improved, Soule and Mediterranean.

Seed Rye of the best winter variety; also a cheaper kind, suitable for late fall and early spring pastures.

Field and Garden Seeds of the various sorts.

R. L. ALLEN.

Aug. 18—w mtf.

189 & 191 Water-st., New-York.

Landscape Gardening.

MR. MUNN begs to offer his services to gentlemen about building or altering their grounds. An extensive acquaintance with the Ornamental Grounds, Country Villas, and Cottage Residences of England, and of this country, combined with an inexpensive system of adapting the natural advantages of the situation to the purposes of pleasure grounds, have enabled Mr. M. to give satisfaction to numerous gentlemen to whom he can refer in New-York, Connecticut, Massachusetts and other States.

Address Mr. MUNN, Box 3292 Post Office, New-York, or at J. M. Thorburn & Co.'s Seed Store, 16 John-st., New-York.

New-York, July 14, 1853.—28—wlf.

FRUIT-TREES,

Ornamental Shrubs, Flowering Plants, &c.

J. J. THOMAS has for sale at his Nursery, Macedon, N. Y., a fine and select collection of Fruit Trees, propagated from the BEST PROVED SORTS, consisting of:—

Apple Trees.....	at 20 cts. each, \$15 per 100.
Peach, do large.....	20 do 15 do
do do 1 year from bud, 15 do 12 do	
Cherry, do with fine heads, 31 do 25 do	
Pear, do standards.....	50 do
do do dwarfs.....	37 do
Plum, do.....	37 do

Besides the smaller fruits, as Strawberries, Grapes, &c. For those who desire it, careful selections will be made by the proprietor, of the different sorts, so as to afford a regular succession of the finest varieties, through summer, autumn, and winter, without additional charge.

Also, for sale a large collection of hardy ORNAMENTAL TREES and SHRUBS, HERBACEOUS PERENNIAL FLOWERING PLANTS, &c., among which are a hundred selected sorts of Roses, the finest Spiræas, Pæonias, Philoxes, Tulips, &c.

Orders directed "J. J. THOMAS, Macedon, Wayne Co., N. Y.," and accompanied with remittances, will be carefully filled, and the trees or plants packed in the best manner for safe conveyance by railway.

9 mo. 8—36—6t—m2t.

Blue Grass.

5000 BUSHELS of choice Kentucky Blue Grass—All new seed. The superior manner in which our seed is prepared for market, has given it a reputation altogether unequalled, wherever it has been sold. We are now prepared to fill orders to any extent.

MILLER & SHREVE,
Western Agricultural Warehouse,
August 25, 1853—w3m Louisville, Ky.

Spanish Merino Bucks.

TEN Spanish Merino Bucks, imported in the Bark Charles A. Coe, from Malaga, and were selected from the National Flock at Estramadura, and are of the pure Merino Blood, can be seen at 420 Tenth street, New-York.

S. W. GOODRIDGE & CO.,
Sept. 22—w4t 84 Broad-street.

Timothy Seed.

300 BBLs. soon to arrive fresh from the field, and to be unsurpassed in quality. The great pains we take in procuring all our seeds, induces us to recommend them with the utmost confidence to our friends. For sale by

MILLER & SHREVE,
August 25, 1853—w3m Louisville, Ky.

A Desirable Country Residence.

MY old Homestead farm (118 acres) is for sale. For particulars, see Country Gentlemen No. 7, 8, 9, 10, or the Cultivator for March. Payments accommodating.

DAVID THOMAS.
Greatfield, near Aurora, Cayuga co., N. Y. Sept. 15.

United States Agricultural Warehouse and Seedstore

No. 197 Water street, near Fulton street, New-York.

MERCHANTS, Planters and Farmers, in want of AGRICULTURAL and HORTICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS or SEEDS, for shipping, plantation, farm or garden purposes, will please call and examine our extensive and superior assortment of goods in the above line, unsurpassed by any other house in the United States, for finish, material and workmanship, and of the most approved patterns; all of which we will sell on as good terms as any other house in this city.

We have among our assortment the far-famed and unequalled EAGLE D. & F. PLOWS, warranted to draw lighter and do as good work in sod or stubble ground, as any other Plow to be found in the United States.

We also have the highest premium Straw Cutters, Fan Mills, Grain Mills, Premium Stalk Cutters, Horse Powers, Threshers and Separators of different kinds; Ketchum's celebrated Mowing Machine, unsurpassed; Hussey's Reaping Machine—also, McCormick's Cotton Gins, Cotton Presses, Hay and Hide Presses, Brick Machines, Harrows of all kinds, Sugar Mills for plantation use, Sugar Mills for grocer's use, Hand Store Trucks of all kinds, Mule Carts, Horse Carts, Farm Wagons, Wheel Barrows, Coal and Canal Barrows. In fact we have everything for shipping or using on plantation, arm or garden.

JOHN MAYHER & CO.
N. B. Guano, Bone Dust, Poudrette, Superphosphate of Lime, and other fertilizers. Jan 1, 1853—m&wtf.

Albany Tile Works.

Corner Patroon and Knox Streets, Albany, N. Y.

DRAIN TILE of the following descriptions and prices, suitable for land drainage, always on hand, in large or small quantities, of the first quality, delivered at the Docks and Railroad Depots free of cartage.

Horse Shoe Tile.	
4 1/2 inch calibre,	\$18 per 1000 feet.
3 1/2 " " "	\$15 " "
2 1/2 " " "	\$12 " "
Sole Tile or Pipe.	
3 inches calibre,	\$18 per 1000 feet.
2 " " "	\$12 " "

Horse Shoe Hand Tile, 8 inches calibre, for drains around dwellings, at \$8 per 100 feet. Sole Tile, 4 inch calibre, for sink drains, at \$4 per 100 feet—9 and 6 inch square, polished face Floor Tile, less than one-fourth the cost of marble, for basement floors and cellar pavements—9 and 6 inch square Bakers' Tile, for oven bottoms. Orders from a distance will receive prompt attention.

A. S. BABCOCK.
Albany, April 14, 1853—16—13t—c6m.

Albany Drain Tile Works.

No. 60 Lancaster Street, Albany, West of Medical College.

THE subscriber, successor to JOHN GOTT, formerly A. S. BABCOCK & CO., is prepared to furnish DRAINING TILE of both Horse Shoe and Sole patterns, at from \$12 to \$18 per 1000 pieces. The tile are more than a foot in length, and fully equal to any of American or Foreign manufacture. They are so formed as to admit water at every joint, and drain the land perfectly from 12 to 20 feet on each side, according to the nature of the soil.

Also, LARGE TILE for drains about dwellings, yards, &c., at from \$4 to \$8 per 100 pieces. Tile delivered at the docks and railroads free of cartage. Practical drainers, for laying Tile, furnished if desired.

Full directions for preparing ditches, laying tile, &c., will be sent free to those addressing the subscriber, post-paid. The tiles can be sent safely any distance. Orders are respectfully solicited.

DAVID CALLANAN.
Sept. 15—w&mtf. Albany, N. Y.

Works on Horticulture.

PRACTICAL Treatise on the Culture of the Grape Vine, by J. Fisk Allen. Third edition, enlarged and revised. Price \$1.00.

Practical Treatise on the Construction, Heating and Ventilation of Hot Houses, Graperies, &c., by Robert B. Leachars—\$1.00.

Gardening for Ladies, by Mrs. Loudon. Edited by A. J. Downing—\$1.25.

The American Fruit Culturist, by J. J. Thomas. Eighth edition—\$1.00.

Family Kitchen Gardener, by R. Buist—75 cents.
Fruit, Flower and Kitchen Garden, by Patrick Neill—\$1.25.
For sale at the office of the Cultivator, 395 Broadway.

Hay Press.

DERICK'S PATENT HORIZONTAL PORTABLE HAY PRESS.—This Press is manufactured only by the subscribers, proprietors of the Premium Agricultural Works, Albany, N. Y. This Press was in the 16th No. of the Country Gentleman, and the June No. of the Cultivator. Since that time some very valuable and essential improvements have been made. A new and improved capstan has been invented, by which the horse, without being removed from the sweep, operates the follower both backward and forward, thereby dispensing with the windlass (seen in the cut) for drawing the follower back.

Derick's Horizontal Press, as exhibited at the N. Y. State Fair in 1852, constructed so as to press from each end of the frame towards the center, by means of a single lever or toggle joint, has been abandoned as impracticable. Parallel levers, and pressing from one end of the frame, obviate all the objections against the original plan. The Horizontal Press, as thus improved and now manufactured by us, is universally admired and approved; its advantages, compared with the vertical or upright press, are too numerous to be specified in a limited notice. Descriptive circulars will be promptly sent upon application. Warranted to give satisfaction, or they may be returned. Orders solicited and promptly filled.

DEERING & DEDERICK,
Corner of Bleecker and Franklin sts., Albany, N. Y.
Sept. 22—w&mtf.

Super-Phosphate of Lime—C. Deburgh's No. 1.

WE are the only authorized agents for the sale of Deburgh's Super-Phosphate of Lime in the city of New York. As there has been various spurious substances sold last spring for this superior manure, we request farmers and dealers to send their orders direct to our warehouse. We have sold about 300 tons this spring, and have received information from many that it was equal to guano in its immediate effect, and much more lasting in the land.

Any person who purchased from us Deburgh's Super-Phosphate last spring, which has not given satisfaction, by sending us notice, we will forward another lot for trial without charge.

LONGETT & GRIFFING,
State Agricultural Warehouse, No. 25 Cliff-st.
New-York, Aug. 11—w&mtf.

Super-phosphate of Lime.

IN bags and barrels, made by C. B. Deburgh, a warranted pure and genuine article, for sale by

GEO. DAVENPORT,
No. 5 Commercial, corner of Chatham-st., Boston,
Agent for the manufacturer, with directions for use.
Also, for sale, Ground Bone, Bone Dust, Burnt Bone, Guano, and Grass Seeds of reliable quality.
April 7—14—1t—mtf.

Manures.

PERUVIAN GUANO, 2 1/2 to 2 3/4 cents per pound.
BONE DUST, when taken in equal quantities, \$2.25 per barrel.

BONE SAWINGS, separately, \$2.50 per barrel.
PLASTER, \$1 to \$1.25 per barrel.
POTASH, 3 1/2 to 4 cents per pound.
CHARCOAL, \$1 per barrel.
SULPHURIC ACID, 2 1/2 to 3 cents per pound.
SUPERPHOSPHATE OF LIME, 2 1/2 cents per pound.
WOOD'S RENOVATING SALTS, one cent per pound.
For sale at the State Agricultural Warehouse, No. 25 Cliff-street, New-York. LONGETT & GRIFFING.
Feb. 1—ctf.

ANDRE LEROY,

Nurseryman, - - - - Angers, France,

HONORARY AND CORRESPONDING MEMBER, &c., of all the principal Agricultural Societies of Europe and America, begs to inform his friends, and the public in general, that he has just published his Catalogue for 1853, which is the most complete one ever made. All the prices and required information for the importation of all kinds of Trees, Shrubs, Evergreens, Stocks, Roses, &c., will be found in said Catalogue, which can be had free of charge, on application to the undersigned, who will receive and forward all orders, and attend to receiving and forwarding of the trees ordered, on arrival here. It is useless to add that Mr. LEROY possesses the largest NURSERY on the Continent. His experience in putting up orders for America, and the superior and reliable quality of all his trees, &c., is too well established to require any further notice. Orders should in all cases be sent to the undersigned in the fall, with information when the trees are to arrive here, and how they are to be forwarded.

E. BOSSANGE,
Sept. 29—m3t. 138 Pearl-st., New-York.

Suffolk Pigs.

SIX pairs of purely bred Suffolk Pigs, also breeding sows, for sale by
Sept. 15—2t* C. J. HOLDEN,
Walpole, N. H.

Books for Farmers.

THE Farmer's Encyclopedia and Dictionary of Rural Affairs, embracing all the most recent discoveries in Agricultural Chemistry, by Cuthbert W. Johnson, Esq. Adapted to the United States by Gouveneur Emerson. One large vol., with plates—\$4.00.

The Progressive Farmer—A Scientific Treatise on Agricultural Chemistry, &c., applied to Practical Agriculture, by J. A. Nash—50 cents.

The American Farm Book, or Compend of American Agriculture, by R. L. Allen—\$1.00.

The American Muck Book, treating of all the principal fertilizers and manures in common use, with specific directions for their preparation, preservation and application to the soil and to crops, by D. J. Browne—\$1.00.

The Farmer's Dictionary—A vocabulary of the technical terms recently introduced into Agriculture and Horticulture, and also a compendium of Practical Agriculture, by D. P. Gardner, M. D.—\$1.50.

Norton's Elements of Scientific Agriculture—50 cents.

The Farmer's Manual—A Practical Treatise on the Nature and Value of Manures, by F. Falkner, Esq.—50 cents.

Johnston's Agricultural Chemistry—\$1.25.
For Sale at the office of the Cultivator, 395 Broadway.

Suffolk Pigs.

THE subscribers are prepared to receive orders for pure Suffolk Pigs, bred from stock imported in 1848 by the late William Stickney, also by the subscribers in Jan. last. Address, JOSIAH STICKNEY, Boston or Watertown, or ISAAC STICKNEY, Boston, Mass.
September 1—m6t.

Orchard Grass.

3000 BUSHELS Orchard Grass, handsomely cleaned, and for sale at the Western Agricultural Warehouse of
MILLER & SHREVE,
August 25, 1853—w3m Louisville, Ky.

To Flax Growers.

THE subscriber has invented and builds to order, a FLAX MACHINE, which, attended by two hands, is guaranteed to dress from three hundred to four hundred and fifty pounds of flax per day. The saving in labor and tow, by comparison, is considered equivalent to the cost of dressing flax by the best common machinery, used in this country and Europe. The new machine is made with care, to secure strength and durability, and can be run at a speed which requires more than two hands to attend it. Unrotted flax straw can be dressed by it. It can be driven by horse power or otherwise; and, being portable, can be sent any distance. For the present, the price of the machine complete, is \$400. Those who wish to obtain it in season to begin operations next autumn, will do well to apply soon.

S. A. CLEMENS.
Springfield, Mass., March 9, 1853.—mtf.

Grey Chittagong Fowls.

CHITTAGONG Fowls, pure blood, for sale by
JOSEPH W. WHITE, Gov. St.
Hartford, Conn., Oct. 1—mtf.

Basket Willow.

CUTTINGS of the best kinds of Basket Willow, with directions for planting, for sale at \$5 a thousand, by
WM. H. DENNING,
Sept. 22—m2t* Fishkill Landing, Dutchess Co., N. Y.

Farmers, Attention!

THIS is the proper season to use LEINAU'S AMERICAN FERTILIZER upon your farms. This truly valuable manure can be had at \$25 per ton, or \$3.50 per barrel, of the proprietor. Try it. It is now on exhibition at the Crystal Palace, New-York, and any amount of names can be given of its successful use. Also, Guano and Poudrette, Phosphate of Lime and Aqua Ammonia.

G. A. LEINAU,
Aug. 18—m3t. No. 19 South Front-st., Philadelphia.

Election Notice.

SHERIFF'S OFFICE, City and County of Albany, August 19th, 1853.—An election is to be held in the city and county of Albany, on the Tuesday succeeding the first Monday of November (the 6th day of November) next, at which time will be chosen the officers mentioned in the notice from the Secretary of State, a copy of which is hereto annexed.

JOHN MCLEWEN, Sheriff.

STATE OF NEW-YORK.

SECRETARY'S OFFICE, Albany, August 18, 1853.

To the Sheriff of the County of Albany:

Sir—Notice is hereby given, that at the General Election to be held in this State on the Tuesday succeeding the first Monday of November next, the following officers are to be elected, to wit:

A Secretary of State, in the place of Henry S. Randall;
A Comptroller, in the place of John C. Wright;
An Attorney General, in the place of Levi S. Chatfield;
A State Engineer and Surveyor, in the place of William J. McAlpine;
A State Treasurer, in the place of Benjamin Welch, junior;
A Canal Commissioner, in the place of John C. Maiber;
A State Prison Inspector, in the place of William P. Angel;

Two Judges of the Court of Appeals—one in the place of Charles H. Ruggles, and one in the place of Hiram Denio, appointed to fill the vacancy occasioned by the resignation of Freeborn G. Jewett;

A Clerk of the Court of Appeals, in the place of Charles S. Benton;

All whose terms of service will expire on the last day of December next, except that of Freeborn G. Jewett, which will expire the last day of December, 1857.

Also, a Justice of the Supreme Court for the Third Judicial District, in the place of Malbone Watson, whose term of office will expire on the last day of December next;

Also a Senator for the Eleventh Senate District, in the place of Azor Taber, whose term of office will expire on the last day of December next.

County Officers also to be Elected for said County.

Four Members of Assembly;
Two Justices of Sessions, in the place of Cornelius Van Derzee and Samuel O. Schoonmaker;

A District Attorney in the place of Andrew J. Colvin; all whose terms of office will expire on the last day of December next.

Yours respectfully,
Sept. 22 HENRY S. RANDALL, Secretary of State.

Osier or Basket Willow.

THE subscriber will have for sale, to be delivered this fall or next spring, about 50,000 Willow Sprouts of the growth of this season, suitable for propagation or for baskets. Each sprout will make from four to five cuttings for planting.
C. N. BEMENT, 341 Broadway, Albany.
Aug 11—wlam4m.

Devon Cows,

HEIFERS, and Bull Calves—pure blood—for sale by
Feb. 1—mly. B. V. FRENCH, Braintree, Mass.

Suffolk Pigs.

OF pure blood, for sale by
Feb. 1—mly. B. V. FRENCH,
Braintree, Mass.

The Leisure Hour.

The Vase of Tears.*

BY J. BRENT.

The morning through the lattice fell,
The morning's glimmer slowly;
It lit a little dying face
With a light both calm and holy:

Then as a cloud its shadow gray
Just cast, ye scarce knew whether
The child's last smile, or sunny ray,
Went first, or both together.

The small gray cloud was swift in flight,
Not so a mother's sorrow;
She knew no ray nor smile would light
Her dead child's face to-morrow!

They took little gentle Annie away;
To a sun-bright lea they bore her;
For they knew where the lambs came out to play
The daisies would cluster o'er her!

Yet empty stood one little chair
For months in that lonely dwelling,
And a mother wild looked watching there,
With tears for ever welling.

At last, like a well-known step, there seemed
A sound by the lattice lonely,
One night when braided in mist gleamed there
The belt of Orion only;

The door was ajar; then soft and fair,
'Neath the purple Night above her,
Shone Annie's eyes, and her golden hair,
And the smile that made all to love her.

With a step so still she glided in—
With a voice so sweetly broken:
'O mother, dear mother, such grief is sin;
Behold, of thy tears, the token!

She looked: 'twas a goblet of crystal glass,
In her child's pure hand 'twas glowing:
'O mother, 'tis filled with thy tears; alas,
One drop! it were overflowing.

'One drop! then no rest in the grave were mine,
No joy when my spirit would hasten;
For the God we serve loves the heart divine,
That blesses the griefs that chasten!

It vanished; then softly and sweetly bright
Came a strain as from angels given;
And she saw, where a star shot its trackway of light,
Little Annie had gone to heaven!

* It is a prevalent notion in parts of Germany, that excessive grief on the part of the survivors affects the repose or the happiness of the deceased. In Bechstein's *Marchenbuch*, is a story founded on the same supposition.

[Chambers' Edinburgh Journal.]

An Amusing Sketch.

The following is an extract from one of the series of articles in the *Home Journal*, entitled, "Out-Doors at Idlewild," by N. P. WILLIS. It is decidedly humorous, and has a plain moral:—

I mentally took back, to-day, some of my strong language on the subject of highway pigs. It was somewhat an unexpected retrocession, too; for, coming out from my gate, on the river side, I had found some thrifty clover, which had been sown around the posts on the road-side, completely rooted up by snouts that should, at least, have had rings in them. With my home thus made slovenly and inelegant to the eye of the transient passer-by, I was making a large counter-charge of new happiness to which I had, by this new sorrow become entitled, when I overtook an old woman loaded heavily with baskets and bundles. The look over her shoulder at the empty seat in my wagon would have been irresistible from the mere largeness of the favor—as she was doubtless bound to Newburgh like myself, and a "lift" would save her four miles of trudging in a hot sun, and the two tolls on the way—but she was, to me, a volume in a library I love to dip into—a history of a life being lived, of which I and the recording angel would thus read the chapter of to-day. A true book, thus opened for one when he has attention to spare, and walking on its own legs afterwards away, would be a favor to the reader, you would suppose—yet this old woman got into my wagon to be read for a half-hour, and was grateful to me! How often the apparent givings of this complex life are thus secretly refunded with overpayments!

Under my recent irritation, there was but one subject upon which I was likely to converse, and, as a

neighbor's dog crossed the road in chase of a pig, I remarked upon the different fates of the different classes to which the two animals belonged—dogs and donkeys valued only before death, pigs and poets valued principally after. Whether or not the old woman fully comprehended the analogy between pork and fame, she went immediately into the character of her pig "Jemmy," giving him such life-time praise as made him clearly an exception to my theory. His running loose upon the road and fattening with no cost or trouble to her, his faithfulness to his pen, his endurance of the dogs and his innocent ways with the children, were described lovingly enough to make a live poet envious. Unpopular as he must needs be abroad, "Jemmy" was, at home, an idol. She stuck to the theme. It was evident that the world, for her, might be divided into two equal parts—her pig and residue. I regretted, I say, that I had been so general in my war upon the swine loose in my neighborhood. If "Jemmy" had chanced to be among them, it would not be amends enough that I might relish him hereafter as pork—pork, which had thus made an old woman happy, having been, it seemed to me, deserving of respect while in pig. (Mem. to advocate consideration toward stigmatized classes, and especially to pre-pork the poets who are yet to be cut up and sold.)

The road I frequent, between Idlewild and Newburgh, has no public conveyance; and there is, of course, an understanding, along its four or five miles, that a foot-passenger is entitled to "a lift," in any vehicle going "his way" with a spare seat. In my plain wagon, with a pair of horses more useful than ornamental, I happily seem rather seeking company than bestowing any very great favor, in my daily pickings-up; and, on that footing, men, women and children are very communicative. If you could make the telegraph-wires drop down the secrets they are carrying, as you drive under them, it would scarce be more voluminous—certainly less interesting. Common people think something—if they do not know something—about every body within reach. In passing the villa of my magnificent neighbor "the Commodore," the other day, who "keeps a yacht and never drives the same carriage twice," I was told (also,) that he was "worth ten cents a minute." My own house was pointed out to me as the residence of a man that "publishes a paper in poetry." The different wages that are made, the different ways of employing odd time, the experience in cows, pigs and poultry, and the characters of the "chaps and girls," are matters that let in many a side-light upon my trips to Newburgh. I find the common air very much peopled with all this, and even our beautiful scenery very much socialized and varied. The landscape is lovelier, I find, when, under every chimney-smoke which I see back of us on the mountains, I think it probable I thus have an acquaintance.

RULES FOR LADY PRINTERS.—1. Must be at the office whenever required. 2. No reading of motto papers and love stories, during the working hours. 3. No "hand" shall be allowed to have her beau in the office to see her set type, at any time. 4. No matter how gifted a "hand" may be at making pies at home, if she makes pi in the office, she shall be compelled to assort it. 5. No "hand" shall sit in the sanctum longer than to procure copy, unless requested by the editor. 6. No attempting to kiss the editor for the sake of "clean copy." He will use his prerogative to kiss or scold all "hands," as occasion may require. 7. Ladies who bring their dinner, shall not make a dining saloon of the sanctum, nor use proof-paper for a table cloth. 8. Any lady "hand" about to emigrate to the state of Matrimony, shall give at least one month's notice, that her place may be supplied by another. 9. No married woman will be allowed to work in this office, provided it be known. 10. No lady shall be allowed to laugh at the motion of another while engaged at the case. 11. No smoking, chewing, or dram-drinking allowed in the office. 12. No gossiping, quarrelling, pulling of hair, scratching of faces, or singing love songs during working hours; and no lady shall have free admission to, or orders for the theatre, opera, or other places of amusement, unless accompanied by a gentleman.—*Home Journal*.

COULDN'T SPARE HIM.—"I say, Square, what'll you take for that dog o' your'n?" said a Yankee pedlar to an old Dutch farmer, in the neighborhood of Lancaster, Pa., "what'll yeou take for him? He ain't a very good-lookin' dog; but what was you cal-lating may be he'd fetch?" "Ah!" responded the Dutchman, "dat dog isn't wort no'ting, 'most; he ish't wort you to buy 'um." "Guess tew dollars about would get him, would'nt it? I'll give you that for him." "Yaas; he ish'n't wort dat." "Waal, I'll take him," said the pedlar. "Shtop!" said the Dutchman, "dere's one t'ing about dat dog I gan't sell." "O, take off his collar; I don't want that; suggested the pedlar. "Tain't dat," replied Mynheer, "he's a boor dog; but I gan't sell de wag of his dail when I comes home!"

WHICH IS THE WEAKER SEX?—Females are called the weaker sex, but why? If they are not strong, who is? When men must wrap themselves in thick garments, and incase the whole in a stout overcoat to shut out the cold, women in thin silk dresses, with neck and shoulders bare, or nearly so, say they are perfectly comfortable! When men wear water-proof boots over woolen hose, and incase the whole in India-rubber to keep them from freezing, women wear thin silk hose and cloth shoes, and pretend not to feel the cold! When men cover their heads with furs, and then complain of the severity of the weather, women half cover their heads with straw bonnets, and ride twenty miles in an open sleigh, facing a cold north-wester, and pretend not to suffer at all. They can sit, too, by men who smell of rum and tobacco-smoke enough to poison the whole house, and not appear more annoyed than though they were a bundle of roses. Year after year they can bear abuses of all sorts from drunken husbands, as though their strength was made of iron. And then is not woman's mental strength greater than man's? Can she not endure suffering that would bow the stoutest man to the earth? Call not woman the weaker vessel; for had she not been stronger than man the race would long since have been extinct. Here is a state of endurance which man could not bear.—*American Courier*, quoted by *Chambers' Journal*.

MUSIC.—A musical enthusiast writes to the *Musical World*, bewailing the apathy of the people with regard to musical science. He breaks out thus:—"Why, sir, I would almost, if it were within my capacity, establish and uphold with a musical terror, a musical despotism. I would demand of every parent, guardian, corporation or county court, that each and every child, from the earliest capacity of receiving instruction, should be taught the LANGUAGE OF ANGELS—Music! I would to-morrow have five millions of infant and youthful voices in these United States, singing the A, B, C, of heaven's speech."

CHARITY AT HOME.—We must candidly confess, seeing how life is sacrificed at home at the requisition of corruption and cupidity, our sympathies for the wrongs of distant nations are less active. When we see the poor of this city treated like inferior beings; encouraged in their filthy habits; permitted to indulge in debauchery under statute; allowed to work in the sun with the thermometer at one hundred and twenty, we think there is plenty to do in reforming ourselves, without looking to Poland or Turkey, in season and out of season.—*Tribune*.

A NOTE ON NOSES.—It was Napoleon who said, "Strange as it may appear, when I want any good head work done, I choose a man provided his education has been suitable, with a long nose. His breathing is bold and free, and his brain, as well as his lungs and heart, cool and clear. In my observations of men, I have almost invariably found a long nose and head go together."

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